

Daily Report

East Asia

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Daily Report East Asia

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Singapore Premier Views APEC, NAFTA, EAEC BK0611110493 Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 20 Oct 93 p 9

[Interview with Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong by foreign editor Greg Sheridan; place and date not given]

[Text] [Sheridan] How do you feel about the current state of play in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade? It looks rather distressing.

[Goh] I think there are real difficulties and it's not just the technical arguments. It's actually the whole backdrop against which the current round is being negotiated. On the economic side we're seeing the emergence of mega-seconomies. Economies which are command economies are being integrated with the international economy—China, Eastern Europe. India and Indonesia, Mexico and Brazil—not quite command economies—are more integrated than before. This will force the advanced economies to restruct re.

What we're seeing now is a flood of billions of workers into the world market, workers who were actually producing for themselves before the Cold War ended. This has grave implications for all of us. Against this backbrown, can the West arrive at an agreement which will, from their point of view, protect their living standards? Or would free trade mean a flood of imports, produced with much cheap labour?

[Sheridan] Do you think the West is up to the challenge?

[Goh] I think some countries in the West see this potential flood of manufactured goods and agricultural imports as a threat, but other countries, the United States and Britain, for example, and also Australia, see this as a challenge and that there are opportunities once they overcome the short-term problems. It's better for these mega-economies to be liberalised so that in the future they will provide a hage consumer market, because when they sell to others, they must buy from others too.

[Sheridan] Do you think we'll get a GATT deal?

[Goh] I would put it at 60-40. The US would want to have a deal. It is pushing very hard. So do the UK and Germany. But I'm not sure France wants to conclude the negotiations by December 15.

[Sheridan] How serious is it if that deadline passes without a GATT deal?

[Goh] If there's no deal it's going to stymic the emergence of economies which are now trying to integrate themselves with the world. The advanced countries are encouraging them to open up, to practise economic hiberalisation, to have economic reforms or maybe, to borrow a political term, to practise economic democracy. And just as they're opening up and exporting to the West, the West feels threatened by their exports. That

would have political consequences. Then how do you encourage them to move to political democracy?

[Sheridan] Do you think that if we pass the December 15 deadline that there's still a chance of a GATT deal subsequently or that the world starts to go backwards and then the existing rules break down?

[Goh] It's too early to say. There is some partial agreement. There's a chance GATT will break down if they just wring their hands and say, "Well, that's as much as we can do. Go back to the old GATT, don't move into new areas like agriculture, financial services, intellectual property". The signal will be for the protectionist lobby to put pressure on governments to protect their own industries and workers. Over time, the EC will look inward to sustain its own growth and standard of living. Then the US will have to look towards NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement), maybe to APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation forum). Then the Asians will have to think of a solution for themselves. The GATT will begin to break down.

[Sheridan] So you wouldn't be sympathetic to this latest French proposal for an interim GATT agreement which excludes agriculture?

[Goh] I would not be in sympathy with that. I think we should press all negotiators to come to an agreement by the end of this year.

[Sheridan] Does all this give added impetus to APEC and what APEC could achieve in November?

[Goh] I don't think the APEC summit is looking for concrete achievements. It's an opportunity for leaders to get to know one another.

[Sheridan] At the Association of South-East Asian Nations economic ministers' meeting last week there seemed to be some feeling that ASEAN and South-East Asia's voice within APEC was diminishing. Is that a feeling you share?

[Goh] There was a concern that APEC is being dominated by the US and other countries outside ASEAN. So the ASEAN ministers thought ASEAN should also play a bigger part. Do I share the feeling that ASEAN is being overwhelmed by the others? For the time being, no. ASEAN is a very important component of APEC. But certainly if ASEAN doesn't come up with initiatives and ideas on how APEC should move and leaves it to Australia and the US, then of course ASEAN's role would diminish within APEC.

[Sheridan] What is your overall view of APEC? We in Australia tend to have a maximalist view of APEC.

[Goh] I share the position of Australia, except maybe for the pace. Being in ASEAN we are more realistic. While Singapore would like to move at a pace which is as fast as the Australians prefer, being here we think we should move at a pace which the others are comfortable with. But, essentially, Singapore supports Australia's position. We think APEC is good for all of us and we should aim at the maximum over a number of years—the rules on trade, rules on investment.

[Sheridan] Do you see the possibility of the APEC leaders' meeting becoming a regular event?

[Goh] I hope so—but I think it's too early to say. We haven't had the first meeting yet. It depends on the format, depends on whether the leaders are comfortable with one another.

[Sheridan] I was struck by your remarks to the Asian Wall Street Journal that you thought the defeat of NAFTA would be very bad for the dynamics of world trade. Why is that?

[Goh] Well, if NAFTA is defeated, the signal is that congressmen fear the loss of jobs to Mexico, that investments may be diverted to Mexico and that the Mexicans maybe flooding the American markets with their manufactured goods. We want the US to play big part in keeping free trade going. The defeat of NAFTA, if it comes about, is not because the Americans want free trade, but because they fear competition.

[Sheridan] A lot of people in East Asia believe that NAFTA itself, in principle, is a retreat from a commitment to global free trade by the US, in that it is a preferential, regional deal. Do you think, in principle, that NAFTA is a good thing?

[Goh] If it's a closed NAFTA, just preferential trading arrangements for themselves and shutting out others, it's a retreat. Multilateral trading agreements—that's an ideal position for all of us. But NAFTA is necessary for the US, not just for economic but for political reasons. But once NAFTA succeeds, other members should be invited to join. Then it's not necessarily a bad thing, because it would ensure that the Europeans would have to keep their market open for others.

[Sheridan] Do you think that kind of negotiation could occur under the auspices of APEC, that is NAFTA-East Asia negotiations?

[Goh] Yes. I think APEC is a suitable forum for this. The concerns of the Asia-Pacific can be expressed in APEC.

[Sheridan] In the early days of the Clinton administration it seemed that it was sending a lot of confused signals to the region. Has its message become clearer?

[Goh] It's become much clearer. There were several visits by their senior officials—Winston Lord, then Warren Christopher. They've made clear statements. And the suggestion by President Clinton to have the APEC meeting is a clear indication that this region remains important to the US.

[Sheridan] The US still seems to tie human rights to trade with China and Indonesia. Paul Keating suggested they back off a bit in this regard. What do you think?

[Goh] I think they should de-link the two. If you tie human rights with trade, you could also tie other issues with trade. I've never understood this great outrage over the use of prison labour in China. I've asked them—how much prison labour do you think is being used in China to manufacture products for export to the US? When there's so much cheap labour, do they really require prison labour? "Prison labour" is really a code word to say your goods are produced at too cheap a rate, we can't compete, so we're looking for ways to shut your goods out.

[Sheridan] Do you agree with Let Kuan Yew's remarks that criticism of China over nuclear testing is Beijing-bashing by the Western media?

[Goh] Yes. I find it illogical to talk about radioactive pollution by one blast in China, and the next minute to say you're going to resume your testing. It's inconsistent.

[Sheridan] Do you also feel that Beijing not being awarded the Olympic Games was a move to cut China down to size?

[Goh] It seems quite obvious to us when political leaders in the West are involved in trying to influence the Olympic council. And if you think in terms of politics, I think it would have been better for China to get it.

[Sheridan] Why?

[Goh] Well, then China would have had to behave in a manner expected of her by the international community in the run-up to the year 2000. Unwittingly, I think, the West has provided a rallying point for the Chinese government. It's an example which the Chinese understand. They will say: "Look, they're going to deny us all this. It is unfair. It's not on the merits of the argument. It's politics. It's the West trying to stop China's growth."

[Sheridan] Do you think Australia conducted itself properly in the sense that its bid was not on the basis of politics?

[Goh] Yes. I think the behaviour of Australia was beyond reproach. You threw in your leaders to campaign for Sydney. It was not to run down other bids.

[Sheridan] Keating has talked of Australia's role in the region. How do you see us fitting in?

[Goh] Geographically and economically Australia can be part of Asia. Culturally and maybe in terms of your political thinking perhaps there are some clear differences. Culturally, of course, you are different and I don't

think one should get Australia to change culturally, just as we don't want Australia to change us culturally. But that doesn't mean we can't get along. We are in the same neighbourhood.

[Sheridan] On the Malaysian-proposed East Asian Economic Caucus [EAEC], is the thinking something like that if the EC decides it will focus inwardly, we can also go that way?

[Goh] You're correct. So EAEC does not appear to have a clear role yet. But if indeed other countries become

more inward-looking and NAFTA cuts out countries from their markets, then I think EAEC will jump to life very quickly.

[Sheridan] Do you think that Australia could become a member of the EAEC?

[Goh] I think it's a matter to be discussed. The EAEC hasn't met yet. So it's very difficult to give an answer.

[Sheridan] There's a problem of where Australia falls in that situation.

[Goh] Therefore Australia should push for APEC. It is in Australia's interests to have a robust APEC.

Japan

Hata Views Possibility of Tokyo APEC Summit OW1011081993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0739 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 10 KYODO—Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata on Wednesday [10 November] held out the prospect of holding a summit-level meeting of the Asia-Pacitic Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum in Japan as early as 1995.

Hata noted during a meeting of the House of Representatives foreign affairs committee that an APEC summit will be held for the first time next week in Seattle to discuss trade and investment issues in the Pacific rim region. He said the government will have to consider whether to follow suit. An APEC ministerial meeting is scheduled to be held in Tokyo in 1995.

The Seattle summit, scheduled for November 19-20, will follow the group's fifth ministerial meeting in the north-western U.S. metropolis on November 17-18.

APEC includes Australia, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Taiwan, the United States, as well as the six ASEAN members—Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

MITI Official Assesses Upcoming APEC Forum
OW1011005993 Tokyo KYODO in English 2336 GMT
9 Nov 93

[By Keiko Tatsuta]

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 10 KYODO—Japan expects the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum to be a good place for it to take an active global role in the wake of the end of the Cold War.

"We have to think what kind of management will be most beneficial to the world economy after the end of the Cold War. APEC can be an extremely effective place to think about that," Takeshi Isayama, director general of the Economic Cooperation Department at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), said in an interview.

Isayama, Japan's representative to the annual APEC senior officials' meeting, said he has not expected the forum, launched in 1989, to draw attention so quickly.

Asked what Japan expects from the group's fifth ministerial meeting in Seattle on November 17-18 to be followed by an informal summit of APEC leaders November 19-20, Isayama said, "I think our task is to attach historical significance to this." How to coordinate the difference in economic management between developing and developed economies is a responsibility of the industrial nations, including Japan, he said.

APEC is the only tool to create a "common ring" for the Asia-Pacific region and to have the area continue developing dynamically with an open system, which is the most significant factor in managing the world economy from now on, Isayama said.

He said Japan is seeking an "APEC style," neither an American style nor an Asian style, to manage the global economy. To accomplish globalism, regional development with globally consistent rules can be useful, so APEC can be considered as a "regional experimentation" in making global rules, he said.

In this regard, APEC will not succeed without a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which embody globalism, Isayama stressed. "The Uruguay Round is absolutely essential to APEC."

Failure of the 116-nation talks will lead to more regional trade blocs and jeopardize the world economy, an eventuality which must be avoided at any cost, he said.

Isayama said people of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) quite agree with him there and are worried if they can survive without globalism or cope with regionalism. They fear that the United States will shut them out if regionalism prevails, he said.

There are views that the U.S. will try to promote APEC as an alternative to the new global trade system which the Uruguay Round talks are trying to create, if the global talks fail.

A senior MITI official, who asked not to be named, said he thinks the U.S. may not continue the Uruguay Round talks if they cannot be concluded this year, or rather it will favor beginning a new round from a different perspective, such as stressing the relationship between economic growth and the environment.

Isayama said there is consensus, including the Americans, that APEC is a place for consultation, not for negotiation.

"Making APEC as an alternative to GATT means to make it a forum for negotiation. That's impossible. We don't mean to bind its future, though," Isayama said.

Anyhow, political decisions to wrap up the long-stalled trade talks are likely to be pressed for at the first APEC leaders' meeting hosted by U.S. President Bill Clinton. The timing will be less than a month before the December 15 deadline for completing the Uruguay Round, which was initially supposed to be completed in December 1990.

As a last-ditch effort, some heads and ministers of APEC governments are preparing to issue a special joint declaration to appeal for a year-end conclusion of the round talks, Isayama said.

Prime minister Morihiro Hosokawa may present some concession for the proposed tariffication of Japan's rice import ban on the occasion of the APEC summit, analysts said. While repeating Japan's basic policy not to accept comprehensive tariffication, Hosokawa recently said, "There are a considerable number of things to be done below the water in diplomatic negotiations."

Overseas and domestic press reports have said a compromise is on the table to set a six-year moratorium on Japan's conversion of its rice import ban to tariffs, during which time Japan would gradually open up its market to foreign rice.

U.S. Urged To Scrap 'Buy-American' Laws
OW1011015893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0136 GMT
10 Nov 93

[Text] Washington, Nov. 9 KYODO—Japan urged the United States on Tuesday [9 November] to scrap "buy American" laws, saying such measures discriminate against foreign firms seeking U.S. Government contracts. Japanese trade negotiators raised the issue of foreign access to U.S. Government purchases as officials from the two economic giants traded accusations and countercharges about what is "fair" and "open" in a market worth tens of billions of dollars a year.

Tuesday's session on "preferential procurement" issues was part of the latest round of bilateral "framework" trade talks that got under way in Washington on Monday.

Trade negotiators from the two countries met separately Tuesday to discuss government procurement of medical technology, with the Japanese trying to find out how Washington operates its bidding system for medical equipment.

"Our intention was to see how the Americans do things so that there won't be surprises on our part," a Japanese official said.

The U.S. has accused Japan of maintaining a "nontransparent" procurement system intended to keep foreign firms in the dark about bidding opportunities for lucrative government contracts.

Japan sought to turn the tables Tuesday, accusing the U.S. Government of discriminating against foreign firms with a host of federal and local laws which favor domestic suppliers in government contracts.

Specifically, Japanese officials urged the U.S. to abolish "buy American" laws, which typically require federal and local government agencies to award contracts to domestic suppliers unless non-U.S. competitors offer prices 6 percent to 7 percent below the lowest domestic bid.

Apart from "buy American" laws, Japanese officials said the U.S. also has laws that require government agencies to use U.S.-flagged ships for maritime shipping and give preference to domestic carriers for air transport.

Japanese officials said Tokyo hopes to work out a settlement on preferential procurement practices by July next year but suggested the prospects are not bright. "Buy American' laws have deep roots in American society," a Japanese official said.

Japanese officials noted that "buy American" laws are also under fire in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks in Geneva. Japan hopes the U.S. will settle the "buy American" issue through the Uruguay Round trade talks, Japanese officials said.

U.S. Talks on Insurance Market Analyzed
OW1011055693 Tokyo NHK General Television
Network in Japanese 0310 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Announcer-read report over video; from the "NHK News" program]

[Text] Talks between Japan and the United States on foreign access to the Japanese insurance market began in Washington on 9 November. The talks are part of the Japanese-U.S. trade negotiations under way in Washington

The United States has called for Japan to open wider its insurance market to U.S. firms. Concerning this demand, Japanese negotiators said during the talks that Tokyo could not pledge to take steps to facilitate the United States' entry into the market, saying that such steps were beyond the purview of government officials. The talks are expected to become rough.

[Begin recording of NHK correspondent Nobuyuki Itasaki reporting from Washington] The talks on the insurance market began in Washington on 9 November. During the talks, Japan, for the first time, indicated in documents its basic policy toward the insurance market issue. Although the details of the policy have not been disclosed, a source close to the talks said that Japan rejected in the documents the United States' demand that Japan open up its insurance market to foreign firms as wide as is the case in other industrialized nations. Japan noted that because the matter was basically a concern of Japanese private insurance companies, Tokyo could not make a pledge on the matter, the source said. Moreover, concerning a U.S. demand that Japan delay liberalizing the casualty and medical insurance sectors, which are the most profitable areas for U.S. firms, Japanese negotiators contended that it was impossible for Japan to delay liberalizing only certain sectors.

During talks held in Tokyo last month, Washington indicated its basic policy toward the insurance market issue. Now that the two sides have disclosed their basic stands, negotiators from the two countries will start full-scale negotiations and hope to conclude them before the deadline, which is the beginning of next year. Nevertheless, because the Clinton administration, which

shows a special interest in monetary [kinyu] and insurance issues and which takes the position of supporting the idea of enacting bills allowing Washington to take retaliatory measures against Japan, is apparently dissatisfied with Japan, which means that future talks on the insurance market issue are expected to be rough. [end recording]

Group Denies Illegal Remittances to DPRK OW1011130693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1249 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 10 KYODO—A Tokyo-based pro-Pyongyang Korean residents' association on Wednesday [10 November] denied reports that there have been illegal remittances of money from Koreans living in Japan to North Korea suspected of being used to help develop nuclear weapons. The General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) issued a statement in the name of its Chairman Ho Chon-man, saying there are "no such illegal remittances."

U.S. Defense Secretary Les Aspin reportedly asked Japanese Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata to press the association to stop the alleged illegal remittances.

The association chairman said in the statement that the Japanese Government has been spreading information that 600-800 million dollars a year have been sent to North Korea through the association but "it is groundless." North Korea "has no intention nor ability to develop nuclear weapons, so it is absurd that money sent (from Japan) has been used for nuclear development," the statement said.

Ho also told a press conference that "there have been remittances from Koreans living in Japan to their relatives in North Korea but they are all legal. The General Association of Korean Residents in Japan is not involved" in alleged illegal remittances, Ho said.

Annual Meeting With Russian Governors 'Vowed' OW1011100193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0945 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Unazuki, Toyama Pref., Nov. 10 KYODO—Governors and deputy governors from 16 Japanese prefectures and five Russian Far East provincial governors vowed Wednesday [10 November] to hold annual get-togethers to seek ways to expand economic and cultural ties. The governors chiefly from regions encircling the Sea of Japan reached the agreement at the close of a two-day conference in this central Japanese town, held under the auspices of both nations' foreign ministries.

The communique adopted by the governors also expressed hope that greater exchanges between Japanese and Russian provinces would help warm up overall relations between the two governments.

In the course of the discussions, Russian governors requested Japan bolster investment and technological transfer to the Far East region of Siberia and Sakhalin, Japanese officials said. Some Russian governors cited Japanese technologies in gold and silver refining as well as reprocessing of farm products as the technologies they want to obtain, they said.

The Japanese side underlined that provincial-level exchanges should be pursued as a separate matter from financial assistance under discussion between the two central governments, they said.

Tokyo Pledges 60 Billion Yen in Aid to SRV OW1011113293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1107 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 10 KYODO—Japan pledged a total of about 60 billion yen in economic aid to Vietnam in an aid donor meeting in Paris on Wednesday [10 November] to help its economic, social development and to improve public welfare there, Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said. Twenty-three nations and 17 international organizations attended the two-day conference, which closed Wednesday.

Japan will provide the aid in support of Vietnam's efforts for economic reform and shift to a market-oriented economy under the "Doi Moi (renovation)" reform policy, they said.

The assistance includes a 52.3 billion yen loan for improvement of infrastructure related to power supply and transportation, they said. It also includes a 3 billion yen project-type grant to encourage the structural adjustment policy, which Vietnam is undertaking with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, they said.

Japan will also cooperate in human resources development, the officials said. Japan has so far accepted 67 Vietnamese trainees in such fields as administration, economic management, agriculture, medicine and environment. It has also sent experts on afforestation, they said.

During the conference, Vietnam made an appeal to the world on its reform and open-door policy, while the participating nations and organizations expressed support for Vietnam's reform efforts, the officials said.

PRC Woman Arrested for Illegal Entry

OW0811121293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1134 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] Nagoya, Nov. 8 KYODO—Police arrested a Chinese woman Monday [8 November] in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, on suspicion of entering the country illegally in June.

Huang Xiaofang, 23, is believed to be one of some 100 Chinese who were suspected of illegally coming ashore at

the port of Akkeshi in eastern Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost main island, on the night of June 11 after arriving on a Japanese fishing boat, police said.

Police also arrested two Chinese students—a male and a female—on suspicion of unlawfully staying in Japan. Huang and the two Chinese students lived together in the same apartment in Nagoya, police said.

Of the 100 Chinese stowaways, some 20 have been detained but the rest are still at large, police said.

Farmers Protest in Tokyo Against Rice Imports
OW1011064893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0535 GMT
10 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 10 KYODO—Some 4,000 farmers, including rice growers, staged a rally Wednesday [10 November] in Tokyo against moves to lift Japan's ban on rice imports to ensure the successful conclusion of global trade talks.

The protesters, who gathered in a demonstration sponsored by the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives (Zenchu), expressed strong opposition to proposais to replace the ban with tariffs and to allow access to Japan's markets of other foreign agricultural products.

The rice import ban is one of the issues holding up the Uruguay Round of trade talks under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which is scheduled to wind up on December 15.

Faced by the worst rice harvest in the postwar era, Japan announced in September that it would purchase 200,000 tons of foreign rice, all for processing, as its first emergency import of rice since 1984. But the figure is likely to increase, because a shortage of about two million tons of rice for domestic consumption is expected as a result of this year's exceptionally wet and cool summer, which badly affected the rice crop, officials said.

Yoshiharu Sato, chairman of Zenchu, met Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa on Wednesday and urged him not to open the rice market to foreign producers.

Hosokawa told Sato that Japan will maintain its original stance of opposing tariffication of rice imports.

Several news reports have said that Japan has proposed a compromise to the United States, calling for giving Japan a six-year grace period on replacing its rice ban with tariffs.

Japan justifies the rice import ban on the ground that it needs to be self-sufficient in the staple food, while pointing out that the country is the world's top importer of food.

Political Leaders Join Rally

CW1011125893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1244 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 10 KYODO—Some 10,000 agricultural producers rallied at Tokyo's Ryogoku Kokugikan sumo arena on Wednesday [10 November] to protest against the possible opening of Japan's rice market to foreign imports. Japan's rice import ban is one of the issues holding up the Uruguay Round of trade talks under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which is scheduled to wind up on December 15.

Yoshiharu Sato, chairman of the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives (Zenchu), told the gathering that emergency rice imports, allowed into the country to cover a shortage due to the wet summer, "run counter to the feelings of farmers who cooperated to adjust production over many years. If the government accepts tariffication, we'll be obliged to tell every corner of the country that what left Japanese agriculture to die was the Hosokawa administration," Sato said.

Sato met Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa on Wednesday and urged him not to open the rice market to foreign producers.

Hosokawa told Sato that Japan will maintain its original stance of opposing tariffication of rice imports.

Guests at the rally, which Zenchu sponsored, came from several of the main political parties in Japan, including the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), the Social Democratic Party [of Japan] (SDP) [SDPJ], and the Japanese Communist Party.

SDPJ Chairman Tomiichi Murayama told the rally that it is "truly regrettable" that the nation is now having to pay for the previous LDP administration's policy of gradual reduction of rice field acreage.

LDP President Yohei Kono countered by saying the Japan New Party, formed in May 1992 under Hosokawa's leadership, has been promoting the liberalizing of the rice market since its formation. "Even if the LDP proposes an opposing motion, there are voices within the government which do not support it," Kono said.

The rally adopted a resolution urging the government to adhere to its previously stated policy of not opening up the rice market to foreign imports and to adopt a "resolute attitude" at global agricultural trade talks.

Faced by the worst rice harvest in the postwar era, Japan announced in September that it would purchase 200,000 tons of foreign rice, all for processing, as its first emergency import of rice since 1984.

But the figure is likely to increase, because a shortage of about 2 million tons of rice for domestic consumption is

expected as a result of this year's exceptionally wet and cool summer which badly affected the rice crop, officials said.

Several news reports have said that Japan has proposed a compromise to the United States, calling for giving Japan a six-year grace period in replacing its rice ban with tariffs.

Japan justifies the rice import ban on the grounds that it needs to be self-sufficient in the staple food, while pointing out that the country is the world's top importer of food.

After the rally, about 130 of the attendants started a sit-in in front of the building of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. The demonstrators, appealing for protection from possible foreign rice imports, plan to continue the sit-in all night.

A 63-year-old woman from Hyogo Prefecture, western Japan, said "although it is cold, I want to go on (the sit-in) so that I can make a request to the Agriculture Minister myself tomorrow morning."

Early Settlement of LDP Negotiations Urged

OW1011143193 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Announcer-read report over video on Prime Minister Hosokawa's meeting with Komeito Secretary General Yuichi Ichikawa on the political reform issue; from the "NHK News" program]

[Text] Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa met with Komeito Secretary General Yuichi Ichikawa, who is serving as the chief negotiator on revision of the political reform bills. In the meeting held this morning, Mr. Hosokawa asked Mr. Ichikawa to accelerate the negotiations with the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP]. In addition, Mr. Hosokawa reconfirmed his intention to meet LDP President Yohei Kono to settle the negotiations.

At first, Secretary General Ichikawa briefed Mr. Hosokawa on the development of negotiations with the LDP, and noted the coalition may have to offer some major concessions if the LDP is really serious about settling the negotiations.

In reply, Prime Minister Hosokawa asked Mr. Ichikawa to speed up talks with the LDP, calling for further efforts to settle the negotiations with the opposition.

The two leaders then reconfirmed the coalition's policy to seek a settlement of negotiations with the LDP with a summit meeting between Mr. Hosokawa and LDP President Yohei Kono. The summit meeting is expected to be held in the wake of the 14 November national convention of the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ].

Prime Minister Hosokawa is scheduled to meet SDPJ Chairman Tomiichi Murayama this afternoon to ask for the party's cooperation in this issue.

SDPJ Threatens To Leave Coalition Over Reform OW0911233993 Tokyo KYODO in English 2313 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 10 KYODO—The Social Democratic Party (SDP) [of Japan—SDPJ] has threatened to quit the seven-party coalition government if there is a major change in a government-proposed electoral reform plan, political sources said Wednesday [10 November]. Shun Oide, a vice chairman of the SDP, sounded the warning at a meeting of representatives of five of the seven parties Tuesday night, the sources said.

Oide sharply reacted to Komeito [Clean Government Party] Secretary General Yuichi Ichikawa, who sought support from parties in the ruling coalition to increase the share of single-seat constituencies in the proposed 500 seats for the House of Representatives.

Ichikawa, the coalition's chief negotiator in talks with the opposition Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], proposed increasing the number of single-seat constituencies to 275 from 250 in the original government plan and reducing seats for proportional representation to 225 from 250. The LDP, which fell from power in August for the first time in 38 years, has proposed setting 300 seats for single-seat constituencies and 171 for proportional representation.

The coalition representatives failed to endorse lehikawa's proposal and agreed to have further discussion, the sources said.

Political and electoral reform has been a major theme in Japan for the past five years amid a series of money scandals that hit the political world. Two LDP prime ministers, Toshiki Kaifu and Kiichi Miyazawa, were forced to step down because of failure to achieve reform.

Soon after coming to power last August, Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa hinted at quitting if his cabinet cannot achieve political reform by the end of this year.

Chairman Rejects Compromise

OW1011114993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1133 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 10 KYODO—Social Democratic Party [of Japan] (SDP) [SDPJ] Chairman Tomiichi Murayama on Wednesday [10 November] spurned a concession to the main opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) on key points of government-proposed political reform bills.

Niurayama, head of the largest force within the ruling coalition, told Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa in a

meeting in the Diet building that his party does not support altering the coalition-proposed reform plans in line with LDP demands.

Murayama said the ruling union should put its bills to a vote at a House of Representatives special committee and at the full lower house if it and the LDP cannot meet halfway with each other. The SDPJ leader told a news conference that the seven coalition partners agreed on the key points of the reform bills, including how to change the system for general elections, when they formed a coalition government in August to knock the LDP out of power for the first time in 38 years.

The government bills call for the replacement of multiseat constituencies for the key chamber with a system combining 250 directly elected seats, one per constituency, with 250 seats selected proportionally.

The LDP's counterproposals seek a 471-seat system combining 300 single-seat constituencies and 171 seats distributed under proportional representation.

The SDPJ has vehemently objected to modifications of the government plans, saying a further increase in the number of single-seat constituencies would threaten the existence of the party.

Hosokawa has staked his political future on passage of political reform bills through the Diet by the end of the year. To achieve his pledge, the coalition must have the bills clear the lower house by around November 19 to secure sufficient time for deliberations in the House of Councillors.

Also Wednesday, the negotiators of the ruling coalition and the LDP exchanged views on potential areas for modifications of their separate packages but failed to strike a deal. However, they reaffirmed the need to see through reform and agreed to hold another round Friday afternoon with proposals specifying how far the two sides will go with concessions.

At a news conference, LDP Secretary General Yoshiro Mori, the party's top negotiator, said he urged the coalition to concede as much as possible.

Mori's coalition counterpart, Komeito Secretary General Yuichi Ichikawa, told a separate news conference his side would have preferred to continue the negotiations Thursday but agreed on the Friday talks. "I think both sides have roughly figured out what each other's priorities are," Ichikawa said.

Political reform has topped the agenda in Japan for the past five years following an array of scandals involving LDP politicians. Hosokawa's two immediate predecessors, Kiichi Miyazawa and Toshiki Kaifu, lost power after failing to get political reform bills on to the statute books.

LDP, SDPJ To Summon Ozawa to Diet on Kajima

OW1011065293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0606 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 10 KYOLO—The No. 1 opposition party and the largest party in the ruling coalition moved separately Wednesday [10 November] toward calling coalition leader Ichiro Ozawa to testify before the Diet about 5 million yen he received from scandal-ridden Kajima Corp.

Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) President Yohei Kono told a group of LDP legislators the party will demand that Ozawa testify as a sworn witness in the Diet on the money he received from Kajima Corp. last December.

Kono said the LDP "will take a resolute stance to clarify the truth" about the donation, which he described as "an extremely important problem that cannot be overlooked."

Kono said he will instruct Sadatoshi Ozato, chairman of the LDP's Diet Affairs Committee, to negotiate with the coalition parties on having Ozawa testify in parliament.

Ozawa quit the LDP earlier this year to launch Shinseito [Japan Renewal Party], one of the seven parties in the coalition government. He was instrumental in helping Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa to power last August after the July general election in which the LDP failed to win its lower house majority.

Ozawa is regarded as one of the architects of the coalition's political reform package.

Meanwhile, Koken Nosaka, chairman of the Diet Administration Committee of the Social Democratic Party (SDP) [of Japan—SDPJ], told reporters the SDP will demand the parliamentary summons of Ozawa to clarify his connection with Kajima, a construction giant at the center of a bribery scandal.

Nosaka also said the party will demand the summoning of five other politicians allegedly involved in the bribery scandal involving the nation's major contractors, as well as nine other witnesses reportedly involved in that case and a separate money-and-mob scandal.

The possible witnesses mentioned by Nosaka include former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, former LDP Vice President Shin Kanemaru, and Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, chief of the LDP's political reform headquarters, who is accused of accepting a contractor's help during the campaign for the July 18 general election.

"The cornerstone of political reform is to stamp out bribery. To conduct a thorough clarification of the general contractors' scandal is the way to live up to public expectations," Nosaka said.

Nosaka vowed to "consider how to respond" if other coalition partners scuttle the SDP's plan to summon Ozawa. At present, Komeito [Clean Government Party]

and Shinseito—co-founded by Ozawa and Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata—are balking at the summons.

Prime minister Morihiro Hosokawa told reporters he would leave the handling of the summons demand to bargaining among the opposition and coalition parties. "The summoning of a witness is something to be decided by the Diet, so I will leave the matter to the Diet," he said.

Another opposition party, the Japanese Communist Party (JCP), has already called for summoning Ozawa to the Diet as a sworn witness.

At a news conference Monday, Ozawa said he received the 5 million yen as a legal political donation from Kajima but denied any wrongdoing.

The Political Funds Control Law requires politicians to report the name of donors of more than 1 million yen to the Home Affairs Ministry, while banning politicians from accepting more than 1.5 million yen from a single individua! or firm annually. Kajima's vice president, Shinji Kiyoyama, 67, has reportedly told prosecutors that the construction giant gave Ozawa regular donations of 5 million yen twice a year for two or three years.

Although Ozawa admitted meeting Kiyoyama last December, he denied Kiyoyama handed over the money to him on that occasion.

Kiyoyama is under arrest on suspicion of giving a 20 million yen bribe to the then governor of Ibaraki Prefecture, Fujio Takeuchi, last December. Takeuchi, 75, who resigned as governor soon after being arrested in July, has been indicted on charges of taking bribes from two other contractors, Hazama Corp. and Shirnizu Corp.

Tax Panel Urges Large-Scale Income Tax Cuts
OW0911153693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1404 GMT
9 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 9 KYODO—The Tax Commission will recommend sharp reductions in income and residence taxes in an interim report on tax reform, to be submitted to the government on November 16, a government source told KYODO NEWS SERVICE on Tuesday [9 November]. At the same time, the advisory panel, headed by Kan Kato, will propose a rise in the consumption tax rate to provide the government with steady tax revenues for social welfare.

The report will state that the proportion of revenues from taxes on consumption in the government's total tax revenue should be raised.

Commission members reached an anofficial agreement on the tax-system revamp plan on Tuesday and will subtrait the report to Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa on November 16 after making minor adjustments to the wording. Although the tax report does not specify a timing for implementation of the proposed tax cuts and

raise, it recommends introducing the tax changes under a single law, the source said.

If Hosokawa approves the new tax plan, the government will start working out taxation reform to implement income-iax breaks totaling 5 to 6 trillion yen in January, with the consumption tax rate expected to be raised to 7 percent from the present 3 percent around the spring of 1995.

The maximum tax rate, combining income tax with residence tax, will be reduced to around 50 percent from 65 percent at present, easing the tax burden on medium-income households.

Finance Minister Reiterates Economy in 'Slump'
OW1011082293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0458 GMT
10 Nov 93

[Text] Osaka, Nov. 10 KYODO—Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii reiterated Wednesday [10 November] that Japan's economy remains in a slump, and omitted to mention recent talk of an eventual recovery.

Fujii said in a speech in Osaka that factors such as the high yen are keeping the economy "generally sluggish," using the same wording as the Economic Planning Agency in a monthly report the day before.

He avoided any mention of earlier statements by his ministry hoping for a turnaround by the end of the fiscal year next March. The economy "is in the process of adjustment," he said.

Citing the Bank of Japan's recent slashing of its official discount rate to a record low 1.75 percent a year and government economic-stimulus measures, Fujii said, "I am sure these several large-scale measures, taken as a whole, will contribute greatly to sustainable growth for our economy led by domestic demand."

He repeated his opposition to deficit-financing bonds to fund an income tax cut, but said he "would like to respect" the conclusions of the tax commission, an advisory panel to the prime minister that has confirmed its plan to recommend an income tax cut to be followed by an increase in the consumption tax.

The government is expected to issue "bridge bonds" to finance the temporary shortfall if such a plan is enacted. Fujii has in the past described bridge bonds as equivalent to deficit-financing bonds.

Mieno: FY 1993 Economic Upturn 'Difficult' OW1011082493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0527 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 10 KYODO—A recovery by the Japanese economy from its present slump looks difficult by the end of the fiscal year next March, Bank of Japan (BOJ) Governor Yasushi Mieno said Wednesday [10 November]. Mieno said his talks with central bank

branch managers show "there seem to be no signs supporting economic recovery in the latter half of fiscal 1993."

The government's official scenario has been that the limping economy will begin to turn around by the end of the fiscal year, but financial authorities have begun to back away from that scenario.

Mieno's comment, in a Tokyo speech sponsored by KYODO NEWS SERVICE, is the first official acknowledgement that no time frame can be given for an economic recovery.

Mieno said interest rates are already low enough, adding that monetary steps alone cannot salvage the ailing economy. He voiced expectations of ongoing efforts of a tax reform panel that is calling for an income tax cut, and said further easing of regulations is needed.

Corporate managers, who in past downturns have been able to find specific ways to overcome slumps, are "traveling without a compass" in the current economy, Mieno said.

Saying the central bank's recent slashing of its official discount rate to a record low 1.75 percent in September was enough of a monetary stimulus for now, he nevertheless said that if necessary he would take further steps to help financial institutions make loans. An overemphasis on monetary policy can have bad side effects, Mieno said, adding that time is needed to allow measures taken thus far to have an effect.

Predicting stagnation will continue, he said the length and depth of the current economic adjustment are the most severe since the oil shocks of the 1970s. The job of cutting bloated corporate inventories is huge this time around, companies' weak balance sheets are hampering recovery, and corporate sentiment has worsened, Mieno said.

Mieno reiterated that public investment and housing continue their uptrend but that spending on plant and equipment and for personal consumption remain sluggish, hurt by the high yen and unseasonably bad summer weather.

He aid there is no evidence of lowered growth potential for the Japanese economy and denied that the BOJ differs from businesses in its assessment of the economy. The current economic adjustment is the legacy of the bursting of the "bubble" economy of the late 1980s, which was built on overheated asset inflation and which left corporations without an adequate financial buffer against hard times, Mieno said.

There is no current danger of the speculative bubble reinflating, he said.

Banks and other institutions are cautious in their lending, but there is no "credit crunch," Mieno said,

urging financial institutions to give priority to liquidating the bad debts they carry and building up healthy, revenue-yielding assets.

The central bank is ready to remove any barriers that would hinder that goal, he said.

Mieno defended the BOJ's credit policy by saying call money rates have sunk to all-time lows while long-term and short-term prime rates have fallen sharply recently.

Mieno also dismissed criticism that real interest rates or those excluding price rises are still high in Japan compared with other major countries such as the United States. In view of various economic factors such as money supply growth, Japan's real interest rates are not too high, he explained.

The current easier credit policy may not directly help push up final demand but will probably have broadranging economic effects in the long run. The credit easing could produce intended results if backed up by additional fiscal measures, he added.

The governor underscored the need to infuse "privatesector vitality" as a means to get the Japanese economy "rolling" again.

Specifically, Mieno cited easing of government controls and a recovery in banks' "intermediary functions in lending" as effective in increasing competition in Japan and leading to an overall expansion of business activity. Under these circumstances, the balance of consumption and savings would improve and eventually would help correct Japan's current account imbalance, Mieno said.

Fujii: Corporate Results Cause Weak Stocks
OW1011082693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0753 GMT
10 Nov 93

[Text] Osaka, Nov. 10 KYODO—Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii on Wednesday [10 November] blamed the recent decline of stock prices on the sluggish corporate results being revealed for the first fiscal half. Fujii told reporters, however, the government is not yet considering injecting more public funds into the stock market to stimulate prices.

The Nikkei stock average of 225 selected issues listed on the Tokyo stock exchange ended Wednesday at 18,121.71, after temporarily plummeting to the 17,000 level during the day.

On the economy in general, Fujii said he is not expecting conditions to get any worse. He said the economy is at its worst stage, but there are also some encouraging signs, like the high rate of housing construction and contracts signed for public works investment.

Meanwhile, referring to Muramoto Construction Co., which has gone bankrupt leaving a record large debt in Japan, Fujii admitted the excessiveness of lending to the

company by financial institutions. He indicated financial institutions gave away loans too easily during the era of the speculative bubble.

Fujii also criticized former Kiyo Bank President Juichi Yamaguchi for his "misconduct," being involved in questionable lending activities linked with a local development project in Wakayama, western Japan.

Local Gas Suppliers Urged To Cut Prices OW1011070593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0542 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 10 KYODO—Suppliers of city gas and propane gas in regional areas were urged Wednesday [10 November] to cut their charges to pass on to consumers profits from the stronger yen, officials of the Agency of Natural Resources and Energy said.

The electric power and top three gas companies reduced their charges on a temporary basis this month.

The agency's instruction to regional suppliers to follow suit, its first such move in 13 years, follows the yen's sharp rise against the U.S. dollar since February.

Council Urges Shift in Education Budget OW0811120093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1018 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 8 KYODO—A Finance Ministry Council Monday [8 November] urged a shift in the nation's education budget from one weighted on elementary and junior high school education to research and development at universities.

Most members at the Fiscal System Council's subcommittee meeting supported finding ways to cut government spending, citing the need to review spending currently earmarked for compulsory education, an official at the ministry's budget bureau told reporters.

The budget appropriated for compulsory education accounted for 51.5 percent or 2.8 trillion yen of he 5.43 trillion yen earmarked for the fiscal 1993 Education Ministry budget.

Spending on scientific research represented only 1.4 percent or 73.6 billion yen of the total, the official said.

The members also agreed that the government should place added budgetary emphasis on basic sciences, the official said.

The members also proposed the government charge a fee for school textbooks, which are now distributed to students free of charge at public schools.

Government Relaxes Land-Sale Regulations OW0911072293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0413 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 9 KYODO—The National Land Agency has drafted new guidelines easing requirements that land purchases above a certain area be notified beforehand to prefectural governors, agency officials said Tuesday [9 November]. The agency notified the administrations of 47 prefectures and 12 big cities with populations of more than 500,000 of the new guidelines on Tuesday.

The relaxation comes in view of falling land prices caused by Japan's long-term slump, the officials said.

The monitoring system, drawn up on the basis of the National Land Utilization Law, is applied to prefectures in accordance with their population density and other social conditions, the officials said. Tokyo, at the height of the "bubble economy," introduced a requirement that land deals involving more than !00 square meters in central Tokyo must be notified to the governor beforehand, while Shimane Prefecture in western Japan only requires notification for resort land developments.

The officials quoted the guidelines as saying prefectural governors should gradually ease the monitoring system in consideration of the moves of land prices and dealings. But the system should be tightened again if a resurgence of land price inflation appears likely, the guidelines say.

The guidelines ask prefectural governors to refer to the number of the starts of housing construction, the proceedings of land development plans and other conditions as to whether they either ease or tighten the system. The move comes in response to calls from real estate firms and banks to ease the system to help them dispose of land, which land owners mortgaged in exchange for borrowing money from the banks during the bubble economy. Many of the borrowers cannot repay the loans.

Residential land prices had dropped 3.6 percent as of July from a year before, while commercial land prices declined 7.7 percent, according to the September 21 survey released by the agency.

Residential District Prices Continue To Fall OW1011130193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1235 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 10 KYODO—Land prices in residential districts in Japan's three major cities have continued to fall since October 1 but by smaller margins, the National Land Agency said in a quarterly survey released Wednesday [10 November].

The size of the price drops in residential districts in Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya has shrunk because more and more people are wanting to build their own houses.

The popular desire to acquire a house drove down the government-backed Japan Housing Loan Corp.'s interest rate to 4.05 percent a year, down about 2 percentage points from two years ago, sources close to the housing industry said.

The survey, which covered 849 places across the country, also referred to commercial districts in the three cities, saying prices there have continued to fall since the last survey on July 1.

In addition, the latest survey said prices in regional cities across the country have either continued to drop or remain flat, compared with the July survey. It said prices in both residential and commercial districts in central Tokyo fell more than 3 percent since July.

In both Osaka and Nagoya prices in residential districts fell I percent or more from the July survey, while prices in commercial districts dropped 3 percent or more.

North Kores .

Envoy Addreses UN on Nuclear Issue, N-S Talks SK1011023793 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2305 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Our country's representative spoke at the First Committee of the UN General Assembly on 22 October. In his speech, he said that complete nuclear arms reduction emerged as the most important issue among all those concerning arms reduction. Noting that there has been no change in the old resolution aimed at justifying the existence of nuclear weapons under the cloak of deterring a war, he said the nuclear powers lack the will to abolish nuclear weapons unconditionally in accordance with the demand of the times.

He stressed: It is the DPRK Government's invariable position that testing, producing, accumulating, and using nuclear weapons should be prohibited throughout the world and that all nuclear weapons should be abolished completely.

After emphasizing that practical success of international efforts for nuclear nonproliferation and nuclear arms reduction depends on the efforts by countries that possess nuclear weapons, he stressed that the abolition of nuclear weapons is not a matter of method or procedure, but matters to the nuclear states' will and decision for the unconditional abolition of nuclear weapons.

He pointed out that our delegation supported proposals concerning the abolition of nuclear weapons, including the prohibition of using and producing nuclear weapons, which had been presented by nonaligned nations and developing countries. He insisted that the nuclear arms reduction after the Cold War should be based on the complete abolition of nuclear weapons and that the aim and content of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] should be changed fundamentally.

He pointed out that the impartiality of the NPT should be corrected to impose the same obligations upon both nuclear states and nonnuclear states and that the abolition of nuclear weapons should be an aim of the treaty.

He said: People have an increasing desire to build a new independent and peaceful world after the Cold War ended. All countries are equal regardless of the size and development level of each country. Larger countries have to be more faithful to the principle of international equality and justice, with greater responsibility.

Regarding the security of Asia, he said that the removal of what had been produced by the Cold War on the Korean peninsula and Korea's peaceful reunification is an imminent issue that should be implemented without further delay.

After noting that the nuclear question of the Korean peninsula is a product of the Cold War, he mentioned the efforts being made by the Republic's government to prevent the nuclear war danger and to solve the nuclear question of the Korean peninsula peacefully.

He said: A series of recent DPRK-U.S. talks was an important way to a fundamental solution of the nuclear question of the Korean peninsula. The first round of the talks presented principles needed to settle the nuclear problem of the Korean peninsula and pending issues between the DPRK and the United States.

After mentioning the result of the second round of the DPRK-U.S. talks, he stressed that the Korean peninsulabased United Nations Forces Command, a product of the Cold War, should be disbanded and that the Armistice Agreement should be replaced by a peace treaty.

Regarding peace, security, and reunification of the Korean peninsula, he said:

In order to develop North-South dialogue and implement the North-South agreement, outside forces' interference and large-scale war exercises against the dialogue partner should be stopped and the Cold War concept of being hostile to fellow countrymen should be abandoned. The country's reunification should be realized to achieve durable peace and security of the Korean peninsula. The whole course of the fatherland's reunification and the prevailing situation require that the Korean people advance to achieve the country's reunification with the great unity of the whole nation based on independence. When we establish a Korean confederal republic based on the nation's oneness, we can seek [tomo] the national unity and solidarity in a single country.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, president of the DPRK, presented the 10-Point Program of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation for the Reunification of the Fatherland to achieve the country's reunification after putting an end to the history of division and confrontation. In the 10-Point Program of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation, the great leader elucidated:

The North and the South should establish a pannational, reunified country that represents all national members of each party, each line, and each class and strata, while leaving the existing two systems and two governments as they are. The pannational reunified country should be a confederal republic, in which the two regional governments in the North and the South participate equally, as well as an independent and peaceful republic that is not leaning toward any powerful country, like a nonaligned country.

Accordingly, the proposal for establishing a pannational reunified country based on a confederal system will open a new, peaceful age in Northeast Asia by preparing a system that guarantees durable peace on the Korean peninsula.

Although obstacles and difficulties still remain in the course of the fatherland's reunification, we will continue to make efforts to achieve the reunification of the country by developing dialogue and negotiations.

The DPRK Government regards it as its duty and lofty mission to actively join the international community's endeavor to realize overall and complete arms reduction and for world peace and security, according to the basic idea of independence, peace, and friendship in its policy on external relations.

Radio Carries Statement on Clinton Remarks

SK1011005693 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2220 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] A spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea [DPRK] on 9 November answered a KCNA reporter's question on the foreign press reports that U.S. President Clinton, in his recent interview granted to the U.S. National Broadcasting Corporation [NBC] Television, made remarks seriously getting on our nerves [urirul simhi chagukhanun paron], blaring that someone's nuclear development shall not be tolerated and that an aggression on South Korea will be regarded as an attack on the United States, though he said the United States will make efforts to pursue peace rather than a total confrontation with us.

The spokesman said:

At this moment when we have declared time and again that we have neither the intention nor the need to develop nuclear weapons and the DPRK and the United States have promised to resolve the nuclear problem through negotiation, the U.S. President took issue with the fictitious problem of development of nuclear weapons by us. If it is true, it cannot be construed as anything other than attempt to apply pressure on us [uriege amnyogul kaharyonun kido].

This fact makes us doubt the U.S. negotiating stance—whether it really wants to solve the problem through dialogue. No pressure or strong-arm tactics will work

with us. It is because the United States is still pursuing its hostile policy aimed at stifling [apsal] our system that the nuclear problem has not been solved fairly up until now.

We cannot but take serious note of the fact that the U.S. President made bellicose remarks against us at a time when the world recognizes that we have no intention of invading the South and the North and the South have committed themselves to nonaggression.

Moreover, keeping mum about the recent provocative utterances of the person called the South Korean defense minister, Clinton took issue with us, presupposing in a farfetched manner a southward invasion which we have never considered. So, we cannot help but pay due attention to the possible connection [yonguani itchi annungae taehaeso] between his utterances and the South Korean authorities' racket about northward invasion.

We, who regard sovereignty as our life and soul, are practically prepared to strongly counter [kangnyokhage taechohal silchonchok chunbiga toeoitta] any act of aggression.

The United States must renounce its anachronistic onesided policy of the Cold War era toward our country, though belatedly [migugun ijerado urinarae taenan sidaechagojogin naengjonsidaeui ilbyondo chongchaegul pogihaeya handa]. Only that accords with the positive development of the situation on the Korean peninsula.

Radio Carries Statement Denouncing SCM

SK1011072493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 9 Nov 93

(Text) According to the VOICE OF NATIONAL SAL-VATION, the Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front [Hanminjon] issued a statement on 6 November condemning the fact that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets held the annual Security Consultative Meeting [SCM] and a conspiratorial war conference to disturb peace on the Korean peninsula and to drive our nation into nuclear holocaust.

Noting that this conspiratorial war conference in Seoul released a powder-reeking, 11-point joint statement, the Hapaninjon statement said: As is already known, Western imperialist reactionary forces and their followers have been wantonly triggering a nuclear inspection smear commotion in a bid to oppose chuche socialism in the North and recently fabricated an international resolution again. Clamoring that the only thing left was to impose sanctions [ije namungossun chejaejochibakke opta], the South_Korean rulers [hanguk tongchibaedul], who turn out to be a shock brigade for the resolution, let the defense minister go so far as to utter the extremely provocative remarks of 2 November on not hesitating to take military countermeasures if necessary [kunsajok taeungdo pulsa hagettago pogon hactta].

Held under such circumstances, the annual SCM session urged the North to make a final decision and reaffirmed that the overall capability of military cooperation system between South Korea [hanguk] and "ie United States would be strengthened. This is by no means accidental.

The agreement reached this time between the aggressors and the traitors to provide collective and effective U.S. military support to South Korea in an emergency, to continue to offer the U.S. nuclear umbrella, and to withhold the withdrawal of U.S. forces is an open military threat to blackmail the North [ipuge taehan nogolchokin kunsa wihyop konggal]. The decision to withhold the suspension of the Team Spirit exercise and the reaffirmation of the necessity of South Korean-U.S. joint military exercises are a head-on challenge [chonmyon tojon] to the whole nation's demand calling for the suspension of nuclear war exercises.

In particular, the decision at the current SCM session to place the Seventh U.S. Fleet under the control of the South Korean-U.S. Combined Forces Command as an operational measure for the win-win strategy of the United States, which is an extension of the 120-day plan for war in Korea, is a definite reorganization of military strength aimed at a war for northward invasion. These facts vividly prove that this SCM session was not a mere, annual military conference, but a conspiratorial war conference aspiring to switch manuevers into direct military action and to take advantage of the North with international smear tactics against the North related to the pending nuclear issue.

Noting that we cannot overlook the fact that the current annual SCM session has created an artificial obstacle to the DPRK-U.S. talks to completely solve the issue of denuclearization on the Korean peninsula, the statement went on to say: The nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula originally derives from the U.S. introduction of and deployment of numerous nuclear weapons in South Korea and the enactment of open nuclear war exercises there. By no means did the issue commence with the fictitious nuclear issue of the North. Therefore, the fundamental solution of this issue can be successfully realized only through DPRK-U.S. talks.

In reality, two rounds of talks were held between the DPRK and the United States to solve the issue of denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, and a productive agreement [saengsanjok habui] was reached there. Recently, substantial discussions were held to completely solve this issue.

Aggravating military confrontation by discussing the nuclear issue of the North during the conspiratorial military conference in Seoul is precisely an act throwing a wet blanket on DPF.K-U.S. talks to peacefully resolve the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula.

Such a provocative act is a product of the mean and dirty conspiracy of the present South Korean authorities, who have regarded the improvement of DPRK-U.S. relations as a thorn in their flesh from the outset, to hinder the DPRK-U.S. talks, and a product of the insidious intention of the United States to gain something from the DPRK-U.S. talks by imposing military pressure on the party to dialogue.

The statement stressed that the entire course of the current annual SCM session has again vividly revealed the beliicose, antinational nature of the Kim Yong-sam regime and the true aggressive nature of U.S. imperialism [kimyongsam chonggwonui hojonjogin panminjoksonggwa mijegukchuuiui chimryakchok ponsongul tasigum kanmyonghage turone poyojugo itta] and continued: Our South Korean National Democratic Front sternly condemns the current annual SCM session, recognizing it as a dangerous war manuever by aggressors and nation-sellers to disturb peace on the Korean peninsula and to drive our nation into a nuclear holocaust.

If Kim Yong-sam thinks that he can achieve his insidious aim by carrying the United States on his back, this is indeed a gross miscalculation and he will not be able to escape the miserable doom which traitor Rhee Syngman suffered in the past.

Today, the situation on the Korean peninsula stands at the dangerous threshold of war [wihomhan chonjaengui muntoge soitta]. Really, should the instable 40 years of neither peace nor war end, after all, in renewed armed conflict? [Kwayon pyonghwado chonjaengdo anin puranjonghan sasimnyoni kkukuknae saeroun muryok chungdollo kyolmallul poaya handan maringa]

Military confrontation is the road to war, and a preemptive attack [sonbulchil] will only invite self-ruin. The aggressors and traitors should look straight at the situation and not take rash and thoughtless action.

Our masses will vigorously struggle to solve the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula in a peaceful way and to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country without fail.

South Korean Democratic Front Denounces SCM SK1011044093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT 10 Nov 93

["U.S.-South Korea 'Annual Security Consultative Meeting' Condemned"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 10 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front issued a statement November 6 denouncing the "annual security consultative meeting" of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique, a war confab to disturb peace on the Korean peninsula and plunge the Korean nation into a nuclear scourge, radio VOICE OF NATIONAL SALVATION reported.

The statement says:

At the "annual security consultative meeting," they "urged" the North to "make a final decision" and wholly reaffirmed the strengthening of the South Korea-U.S.

cooperative war capacity system. This proves that the "consultative meeting" was not a mere annual military confab but a war confab to place the focus on the current international smear campaign against the North over the "nuclear suspicion" and carry it into a direct military action.

It must not go unnoticed that the "consultative meeting" laid artificial obstacles to the DPRK-U.S. talks for a fundamental solution of the question of denuclearizing the Korean peninsula.

The Seoul confab at which the "nuclear problem" of the North was taken up and military confrontation was incited was an offspring of a despicable conspiracy motivated by the plots of the present South Korean authorities to obstruct the DPRK-U.S. talks, hating the improvement of DPRK-U.S. relations as a thorn in their flesh from the outset and the sinister intention of the United States to get something from the DPRK-U.S. talks by putting military pressure on the dialogue partner.

The whole course of the "consultative meeting" clearly revealed again the anti-national bellicose nature of the Kim Yong-sam "government" and the aggressive nature of U.S. imperialism.

If Kim Yong-sam thinks he can attain his sinister purpose with the backing of the United States, it is a gross mistake and he will meet the same tragic doom as Syngman Rhee the traitor.

Nortia Blumes South for Rupture of Contact

SK0911150093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1304 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] The head of the North's side delegation to the working-level contact for the exchange of top-level special envoys of the North and the South issued the following statement [tamhwa] on 9 November refuting the argument of the South side's senior delegate, who slandered our side while defending the bellicose, absurd remarks of the South Korean defense minister in his 4 November reply telephone message.

The following is the statement by the head of the North's side delegation to the working-level contact for the exchange of top-level special envoys of the North and South:

The whole nation is currently disappointed over the fact that the fourth working-level delegates contact for the exchange of special envoys was not held as scheduled because of the absurd remarks by the South Korean defense minister. The whole nation is worried about its future.

Regrettably, in his 4 November reply telephone message, the South side's senior delegate of the working-level contact of the two sides defended the bellicose, absurd remarks by his side's defense minister, and assumed an unreasonable attitude of finding fault with our side,

which is contrary to reason. We cannot refrain from surprise regarding this matter.

Before sending the telephone message to our side, the South side first should have asked about the intentions of his side's defense minister's babbling about military countermeasures on the North, and pressed for an answer for the responsibility of the abortion of the working-level delegates couract between the two sides.

In the telephone message, however, the South side fabricated the situation as if we distorted the remark by its side's defense minister, and tried to relieve itself from the responsibility of not holding the working-level contact as scheduled.

The truth of the absurd remark by the South Korean defense minister was openly revealed through the broadcast, which the South Korean authorities directly controls. Also, since it was reported as a content of a special news conference, there is no room to find fault with it by saying that it was distorted and so on.

The South side is talking as if we distorted the truth. This is no more than a poor excuse, which it made in an attempt to evade at any cost responsibility for the absurd remark of its defense minister, afraid of its responsibility and being conscious of the gravity of the possible aftereffects on North-South relations.

The South side knows well the fact that military countermeasures means denying dialogue and war. Therefore, the South side was bent on smearing the whole telephone message with excuses. However, this only shows how much it is embarrassed after revealing the grave absurd remark to the nation.

The South side's talk about worry by international society related to the nuclear issue, incurring sanctions, and so on are stupid remarks being made by those who have lost their minds.

As was already clarified, the suspicion of our nuclear development is a scheme fabricated by anti-socialist elements—who regard the popular mass-centered socialism of our style as a thorn in the side—and some circles of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The South side is repeating what others say about our fictitious nuclear problem, reading others' mind, and trying to do us harm with help from others. This made it self-evident that it cannot be a reliable dialogue partner with us.

If the South side really wants to resolve the issues pending between the North and South, including the nuclear issue, at the negotiating table with us, it should trust in fellow countrymen and their words. Either from the national point of view or the demand of the times, it is unimaginable to trust in others and their words and hope much from others while having dialogue with fellow countrymen.

We cannot but be disappointed over the fact that the South side cannot disregard its bad habit of consistently sticking to the policy of relying on outside forces while having a dialogue with us, and that it is repeatedly committing an act of denying itself as an independent dialogue partner with us. Moreover, we cannot but call into question the fact that the South side has openly revealed its scheme to continue seeking an international cooperation system, and that it has also agreed not to discontinue the Team Spirit joint military exercise at the recent annual Security Consultative Meeting.

The decision to continue the Team Spirit joint military exercise, a large-scale nuclear war exercise against us, fellow countrymen, is in the same vein as the South Korean defense minister's declaration of military confrontation. Therefore, it cannot be understood otherwise than an act of refusing an exchange of special envoys.

One of the goals to exchange special envoys between the North and South is to achieve the denuclerization of the Korean peninsula. Therefore, the South side's decision to continue the nuclear war exercises only shows that it has no intention to resolve peacefully the issue through dialogue. If the South side truly intends to resolve the nuclear issue through dialogue between fellow countrymen, it must depart from the thinking pattern of war, confrontation, and dependence on outside forces. The South side must know that there is a limit to our patience.

As solemnly declared already in a statement issued by the vice minister of our People's Armed Forces, it is our temperament to answer dialogue with dialogue and war with war. We are prepared for both dialogue and war.

The South side must ponder over things, clearly being aware of the fact that there is no change in our firm stance to decisively punish provocateurs.

Consistent is our stand to solve the important affairs of the nation in the interests of the whole nation by bringing an exchange of special envoys to a success.

We will watch the attitude of the South side hereafter.

Foreign Papers Demand Demolition of MDL Wall SK0911235293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1504 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 9 (KCNA)—Pakistani and Malian newspapers demanded the demolition of the concrete wall built in the South side's area of the Military Demarcation Line on the Korean peninsula, saying the wall imposes misfortunes and sufferings upon the Korean people.

The Pakistani paper HURRIYAT October 29 wrote that the South Korean authorities built the concrete wall in a section extending over 240 kilometres with more than 800,000 tons of cement, 200,000 tons of steel, 3,500,000 cubic metres of mixtures and by mobilizing hundreds of thousands of personnel.

The people in the North and the South of Korea are undergoing indescribable hardships due to the wall, it said.

A recent issue of the Malian paper L'AURORE noted that the concrete wall is a symbol of national division and North-South confrontation and a hurdle lying in the way of national reconciliation and reunification.

It said there can be no excuse to refuse the removal of the concrete wall built in the South side's area of the Military Demarcation Line in view of the fact that through the North-South agreement the North and the South promised reconciliation and nonaggression and the United States and the South Korean authorities welcomed the dissolution of the Berlin Wall.

Daily Says Japan, ROK in 'Dangerous Collusion' SK1011101693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 10 (KCNA)—South Korean chief executive Kim Yong-sam and Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, at their talks in Kyongju, South Korea, reportedly shared the understanding that South Korea and Japan "should develop future-oriented relations, bound no more to the past history" and "agreed to take a joint action" against the fictitious "nuclear problem" of the DPRK till its complete solution.

Branding the talks as a behind-the-curtain dealing for aggression and treachery through which the national dignity of the Korean people was defiled and the interests of the nation were sold off, a NODONG SINMUN analyst today says:

At the talks, the Japanese prime minister tried to bury in oblivion the Japanese imperialists' crimes in their aggression and barbarous colonial rule over Korea for nearly half a century with the mere words "we deeply repent of them once again" and Kim Yong-sam, in reply to this, said "no compensation is needed" for the issue of the "comfort women for the Army" and he would "establish new South Korea-Japan relations" oriented toward the future, not fettered to the past history.

By "new South Korea-Japan relations" he meant new relations of subordinate tieup in easence between the Japanese reactionary forces and the South Korean treacherous forces. This is no more than a new aspect of Japan's political and economic domination over and military intrusion into South Korea.

By joining the Japanese reactionaries in the "clamor over the nuclear problem" against fellow countrymen, the South Korean chief executive stripped bare his pro-Japanese traitorous disposition.

The dangerous conspiracy of Japan and South Korea is an anachronistic act against the trend of the development of the situation which is flowing toward detente and peace with the end of the cold war. The Korean people is watching the dangerous collusion between Japan and South Korea. They will never tolerate and connive at it.

Official Says Japan Must Change Name of Sea SK0911113993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 9 (KCNA)—A delegate of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, speaking at the recent second committee meeting of the UN General Assembly, said that Japan must immediately change the name of the "Sea of Japan" which it gave to the sea between Korea and Japan.

Noting that the sea had been called "East Sea" before the Japanese imperialists' colonial rule over Korea, he said it is unreasonable to name it the "Sea of Japan".

He urged Japan to positively respond to the demand of the Korean people for the settlement of this issue, one of the leftovers of the Japanese imperialist colonial rule.

Calling attention to the fact that no international conference had ever recognized the "Sea of Japan" officially, he stressed that Japan must accede to negotiation of countries concerned for the solution of the issue as proposed by a UN conference on standardization of place names.

Cuban, Chinese Delegations Arrive 9 Nov SK1011053393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0418 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 10 (KCNA)—A Cuban women's delegation led by Vilma Espin Guillois, chairperson of the Cuban Women's Federation, and a delegation of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries and the Sino-Korean Friendship Association led by Sun Ying, vice-chairman of the Gansu Provincial People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, arrived here Tuesday.

Circus Troupe Wins Prize at Chinese Festival SK0911051393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0407 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 9 (KCNA)—"Aerial Flight on the Swings" of the Pyongyang Circus Troupe reportedly won a gold prize, the highest prize, at the Fourth Wuqiao International Acrobatics Festival held in Shijiazhuang, China, from October 31 to November 6.

Officials at Meeting on Cambodian National Day SK1011051393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0411 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 10 (KCNA)—A meeting took place here on November 8 to mark the 40th anniversary of the independence of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

The meeting was attended by Chon Yon-ok, vicechairperson of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and chairperson of the Korea-Cambodia Friendship Association, other officials concerned and working people in the city.

A speech was made and a message of greetings to King Norodom Sihanouk adopted at the meeting.

Ambassador to Nicaragua Meets With Party Leader

SK0911090793 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2300 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Virgilio Godoy, general secretary of the Independent Liberal Party of Nicaragua, received O Song-hwan, our country's ambassador to Nicaragua, on 29 October.

The ambassador conveyed greetings from the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il to General Secretary Godoy. The general secretary expressed deep gratitude for this and asked the ambassador to convey his heartfelt greetings to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Mr. Godoy pointed out that the DPRK-U.S. talks are of great significance in realizing the denuclearization on the Korean peninsula. He stated that the International Atomic Energy Agency should not engage in special inspection commotions. He said Korea should be reunified under the principles of independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity.

WPK Sends Message to Communist Party of Austria

SK1011052893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0413 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 10 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea sent a message of greetings to the federal leadership of the Communist Party of Austria on the occasion of the 75th founding anniversary of the party.

The message expresses support to the struggle of the Communist Party of Austria for peace and socialism.

It also expresses the belief that the relations between the two parties will grow stronger and develop in accordance with the idea of independence, peace and friendship, and wishes the Communist Party of Austria success in its future work.

Nepalese Party Delegation Meets Yi In-mo SK0911052493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0415 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 9 (KCNA)—A delegation of party officials of the Nepal Worker-Peasant Party led by Secretary Prem Suwal on a visit to Korea met

Monday with the incarnation of faith and will, Yi In-mo who was former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army.

What is important in following Yi In-mo is an absolute trust in his leader and party, the head of the delegation said, and pointed out: All revolutionaries should remain faithful to the revolutionary cause of the leader, keeping in mind the obligation of soldiers towards the leader as Yi In-mo did.

There are such unconverted long-term prisoners as Yi In-mo in South Korea, he said, bitterly denouncing the unreasonable behaviour of the South Korean ruling forces who are blocking their repatriation.

Yi In-mo said that he is living a happy life in good health in the bosom of the motherland under the great loving care of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and he would devote his all to the struggle for national reunification.

A member of the delegation recited his own poem on Yi In-mo.

Dominica Visitor Praises DPRK Medical Benefits SK0911114593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1019 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 9 (KCNA)—Adi A. Fernandes, chairman of the Koryo Traditional Medicine Centre of Dominica. in his impressions of Korean visit, said the life and health of the Korean people are protected by law under the universal free medical care according to the policies of the state.

Free medical care has been enforced by the state in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea already from 40 years ago, he said, and went on: It is hardly believable that this benefit was offered to the people at a time when the war deciding the destiny of the country was at its height.

All forms of medical services including outpatients treatment, hospitalization and doctor's visit are free of charge and even expenses for recuperation at sanatoria and return trip are covered by the state.

Thanks to the state policy for preventing and eradicating diseases the Korean young people do not know even the words of typhoid and malaria. It is only Korea where there are no AIDS and cholera.

I could hardly repress envy at the happy life of the Korean people while acquainting myself with the politics, the economy and culture as well as the public health of Korea.

People are taking an active part in social life with hope for the future and enjoying all rights as true masters of society.

I admire the leaders of Korea who look forward into the future and enforce a popular policy centred on man, placing man above anything, he stressed.

Guinea Hosts Signature Campaign for DCRK SK0911114393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 9 (KCNA)—A signature campaign supporting the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo (DCRK) took place in Guinea.

Chairman Mamadou Ali Sampil who is member of the Transitional Council of National Redressment of Guinea and General Secretary Oumar Diarso of the Guinean Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification, the general secretary of the National Federation of Working People of Guinea and other people of various strata purticipated in the signature campaign.

The signature paper said the proposal of confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments put forward by His Excellency Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, is the most realistic one for reunification.

Deputy to Supresse People's Assembly Dies 9 Nov SK1011052793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0416 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 10 (KCNA)—Yi Pong-kil, member of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and chairman of the Control Committee of the C.C., the WPK, died of long illness at the age of 70 at 19:00 on November 9, 1993.

The WPK Central Committee and its Control Committee made public his obituary Tuesday.

it says:

"Comrade Yi Pong-kil had devotedly worked for the strengthening and development of the party and the socialist construction of the country, upholding the leadership of the great leader of our party and our people Comrade Kim Il-song."

Yi Pong-kil who began labor in his early years grew up to be a party official under the care of the party and the leader and energetically worked to firmly build up party ranks and strengthen party's guidance over revolution and construction at responsible posts of central and local party organisations.

Kim Il-song Sends Wreath

SK1011121793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1047 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 10 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today sent a wreath to the bier of Yi Pong-kil, member of the Central Committee, the Workers' Party of Korea, deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK and chairman of the Control Committee of the WFK Central Committee, expressing deep condolences over his death.

Kim Chong-ii Sends Birthday Table to Official

SK0911050893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0403 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 9 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent a seventieth birthday table to Chin Chang-hu, an official of the February 8 cement complex.

From the post-war period Chin has devoted all his wisdom and energy to socialist construction. He has been elected deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly several times, working as chief engineer of the Songhori cement factory and the February 8 cement complex.

Comrade Kim Chong-il estimated him as a man of meritorious services when acquainted with the successes made by him while working devotedly for the party and the revolution, and saw to it that he continued to work as a managing official of the February 8 cement complex even after he greeted his sixtieth birthday.

The birthday table was conveyed to him on November 6.

Kim Cheag-il Greets Family of Dead KPA Officer SK0911051193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0406 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 9 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army [KPA], extended thanks to the family of Kim Chun-chong with was an officer of the Pak Song-chol Unit of the KPA.

Kim Chun-chong had exerted all his efforts and passion to implement the party's military line and policies. Some time ago, soldiers of a platoon were in peril of their lives unexpectedly while on a military mission, when he offered himself as a shield, sacrificing himself to save them.

His mother, Hwang Yong-ee, and his brothers visited the unit out of the single desire to do their bit true to his intentions and deepened feelings of Army-civilian unity, actively helping the soldiers in their combat preparations and in the performance of their military duties.

A meeting took place at Singyong-ri, Hamju County, South Hamgyong Province, the hometown of Kim Chunchong, to convey thanks from Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Order of National Flag First Class and a martyr's certificate conferred upon Kim Chun-chong were handed to his mother at the maeting.

Daily on Glorifying Leadership Achievements

SK0911094993 Fyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Newwork in Korean 0200 GMT 4 Nov 93

[NODONG SINMUN 4 November editorial: "Let Us Endlessly Glorify the Leadership Achievements of the Party and the Leader"]

[Text] Overcoming history's arduous trials, today's chuche socialist cause is endlessly pressing hard on the heels of the enemy along the road indicated by the party and the leader. Eternally vital, our revolution advances vigorously because of the wise leadership of the great leader and the great leader [yongdoja]. The whole party and the workers are resolutely adhering to and glorifying the achievements of the party and the leader.

Conforming with the demand of revolutionary development and the prevailing situation, we must continue to intensify and develop the work to adhere to and glorify the leadership achievements of the party and the leader.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: We must inherit our party's glorious history and revolutionary tradition, further enrich the party's struggle experiences, and consolidate and develop the party's achievements in the struggle.

Chrifying leadership achievements of the party and the leader in the revolution and construction is a lofty duty of people carrying out the revolution. For the revolutionaries and the people, the achievements of the working class' leader and party become the best asset in advancing and completing the revolutionary cause.

If party members and workers are to be endlessly loyal to their party's cause, this precious asset must be adhered to as the apple of their eye. The most important yardstick of loyalty depends on how the leadership achievements of the party and the leader are managed. People who do not forget the achievements of the party and the leader and deeply bear the achievements in their hearts despite the passage of time and the advancement of revolution and construction, and those who make the utmost efforts to glorify the party's leadership achievements by exerting all strength and wisdom, are true loyalists and dutiful people.

Our people are highly proud people who are carrying out the revolution by highly upholding, at the forefront, the great leader and the great leader [yongdoja] who achieved immortal leadership achievements that are to be endlessly glorified before the fatherland, the revolutionary era, and history.

In the long course of pioneering and advancing the chuche socialist cause, the respected and independ leader

Comrade Kim Il-song achieved lofty struggle achievements and lessons to firmly carry on the party and the revolution. He gave on-the-spot guidance throughout the nation so that the footsteps of immortal leadership were engraved in their minds.

When leading the cause of modeling the whole society after the chuche idea at the forefront, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il renewed work in all fields including party construction, state construction, economic construction, cultural construction, and defense construction, and unfolded the heyday of the Workers' Party era on this land.

Leadership achievments by our party and leader are unprecedented in its diversity, abundance, and profundity of content, and have eternal vitality. Everything, from the fundamental principle and guideline which we must adhere to in revolution and construction, to the concrete task, direction, and method to achieve innovations in all fields, is elucidated here. There is no greater glory and happiness for our party members and workers than to have such a lofty, encyclopedic asset as the revolution.

In our country today, the work to adhere to and glorify the leadership achievements of the party and the leader are being carried out vigorously in all sectors and units, and throughout, our party members and worker, are highly exhibiting loyalty toward the party and the leader. This is a matter of great pride firmly guaranteeing the cause of socialism of our own style and the bright future of the revolution.

We must not boast of the achievements made in the past but continue to push ahead with this work. To glorify the leadership of the party and the leader today under whatever circumstance is the most important work in firmly adhering to the chuche-oriented bloodline and resolutely advocating and safeguarding socialism of our own style.

The socialist cause is the cause of the party and leader adhered to and completed while inheriting and developing the abundant experiences and achievements of the party and leader in fulfilling the revolution and construction. Leadership achievements of the party and the leader and the high leadership authority must be firmly advocated and adhered to under all circumstances.

Currently, the imperialists and reactionaries are viciously maneuvering to suffocate and obliterate [pushal] socialism of our own style, the lofty goal of our revolution. At this time, we must all the more vigorously carry out the struggle to firmly inherit the chuche-oriented bloodline by firmly adhering to the leadership achievements of the party and the leader.

The great leadership achievements by the party and the leader are a lifeline that links the past, present, and future of our revolution and an immortal asset that promises the ever-lasting prosperity of our fatherland. Boundlessly treasuring this valuable revolutionary asset

and glorifying it is a firm guarantee for defending the absolute authority of the party and the leader and inheriting and completing, to the end, our revolutionary cause which was cultivated early on in the forests of Packtu. Purther glorifying the leadership achievements of the party and the leader is an important requirement for scoring new upsurges in revolution and construction and vigorously accelerating the grand onward march of socialism of our own style.

Today when socialist construction is being carried out at a new high, we are faced with very difficult and grand tasks. An important key to carrying out these grand tasks is to better conduct the work of glorifying the leadership achievements which the party and the leader have brought about in various fields.

We cannot think of any work of revolution and construction apart from the struggle to defend and glorify the leadership achievements of the party and the leader. How well one can improve the party's work to comply with the demand of revolutionary development, make rapid progress in the light industry and various other fields of the people's economy to greatly improve the people's lives, and better carry out work in literature, arts, science, public health, and other fields of culture depends on how well one carries out the policies which the party and the leader have presented.

When the struggle is vigorously waged to glorify the great leadership achievements of the party and the leader in all the fields and fortresses of revolution and construction, miracles and feats that amaze the world will be endlessly created, and our people will win a great victory in the struggle to create speed in the general onward march.

All the party members and workers must take as their belief the notion that the achievements by the party and the leader are truly great and valuable. The immortal achievements by the great leader and the dear comrade leader are the eternal basis and lifeline of our revolution. To clearly learn about how outstanding the achievements of the great leader and the dear comrade leader are in our era, the revolution, the fatherland, and the people, the party members and workers must fully and profoundly study the honorable and glorious history of our party's revolutionary struggle.

Seeing the proud reality of our revolution, we must be clearly aware of how proud and happy are our people, who are strongly defending and glorifying the immortal achievements of the great leader and the dear comrade leader. In this way, we must possess the strong belief that our fatherland and the socialism of our own style exists because the great leader and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il exist. In particular, we must lead the new generation to deeply understand how valuable the leadership achievements of the party and the leader are and glorify them generation after generation.

To strongly defend and boundlessly glorify the great achievements of the party and the leader, it is important for all party members and workers to display a high revolutionary spirit in the struggle to implement the great leader's instructions, the dear comrade leader's words, and the party's policies. The work of glorifying the achievements of the party and the leader is the struggle to advance the revolution as intended by the party and the leader.

If one has thoroughly implemented the great leader's instructions and the dear comrade leader's words, we can say that one has defended and glorified the achievements of the party and the leader. In victoriously leading the chuche revolutionary cause, the great leader and the dear comrade leader have elucidated valuable guidelines that we must adhere to in all fields of revolution and construction. In all fields of revolution and construction, we must consistently adhere to and thoroughly implement the dear leader's instructions and the party's policies.

Functionaries who handle party affairs must positively wage the struggle to strongly arm themselves with the dear comrade leader's ideas and theories on party building and further consolidate our party and revolutionary ranks into an organism of single-minded unity. As intended by the party, government functionaries must highly demonstrate the superiority and vitality of the people's regime and make great efforts to ensure that upcoming elections of deputies to Provincial and Municipal People's Assemblies are held in a heightened political atmosphere.

In all fields of economic construction, we must substantially carry out the work of more highly displaying the superiority and great vitality of new agricultural guidance systems and the Taean work system created by our party. In cultural and artistic fields, we must thoroughly implement the dear comrade leader's chuche-oriented literary and artistic lines and policies and pool all of our wisdom and enthusiasm to defend and boundlessly develop artistic traditions, his achievements, and his systems and methods of artistic creation.

When all our functionaries, party members, and workers consider the party's lines, policies, decisions, and instructions to be vital demands and implement them in a timely manner, new upsurges will be brought about in all fields of socialist construction, and the achievements by the great leader and the dear comrade leader will demonstrate greater vitality.

To boundlessly glorify the great achievements of the party and the leader, it is important for units at historic sites commemorating the on-the-spot guidance of the great leader and the dear comrade leader to take the lead and set examples. Ever since they started leading revolution and construction, the great leader and the dear comrade leader have given on-the-spot guidance endlessly, and units where they personally gave guidance are numerous. There is no province, county, or unit which the great leader and the dear comrade leader have not visited. This year alone, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song visited various cooperative farms in North and

South Hwanghae Provinces, Pyongyang, and South Pyongan Province, among others, and gave on-the-spot guidance there.

Functionaries, party members, and workers at historic sites where on-the-spot guidance has taken place must cherish deep in their hearts the boundless honor and happiness of and boundless pride in learning valuable lessons from the great leader [widaehan suryong] and the great leader [widaehan yongdoja] and wage a practical struggle to glorify the achievements of the party and the leader.

Plants and enterprises, cooperative farms, and all the other units which received on-the-spot guidance from the great leader and the dear comrade leader must thoroughly carry out organizational work, display high revolutionary enthusiasm to thoroughly implement on-the-spot instructions, and take the lead in all work. This way, these units must become examples, and the achievements which the great leader and the dear comrade leader brought about during their on-the-spot guidance must be glorified boundlessly.

The leadership achievements which the great leader and the dear comrade leader brought about are achievements that they brought about by going among the people, sharing joy and sorrow with them, and working with them.

All party members and workers must score new revolutionary upsurges in all units and fields under the leadership of the great leader and the dear comrade leader and highly demonstrate the spirit of indomitable devotion and the heroic spirit of the Korean people in implementing the party's policies.

In hearty response to the slogan of loyalty "What the party decides, we will do!", we must thoroughly implement all the tasks presented by the party and turn the party's plans into great realities. Enhancing party organizations' roles is important in the struggle to boundless glorify the achievements of the party and the leader. For our party's organizations, nothing is more honorable or worthwhile than the work of glorifying the achievements of the party and the leader.

Various party organizations must carry out all work by giving top priority to strongly defending and further glorifying the achievements of the party. Party organizations must substantially carry out organizational and political work to make the party members and workers cherish deep in their hearts the greatness and preciousness of the achievements of the great leader and the dear comrade leader. Party organizations' functionaries, party members, and workers must take the dear comrade leader's ideas, theories, and policies as a guide for their work and lives, think and act as he has taught, and highly demonstrate the revolutionary spirit by implementing the party's policies absolutely and unconditionally.

The work of strongly adhering to and boundlessly glorifying the achievements of the party and the leader is a worthwhile struggle to more demonstrate the honor and dignity of our fatherland more highly and complete the socialism of our own style to the end. All party members and workers, with confidence and optimism and with great pride in the fact that they are carrying out the revolution while upholding the great leader [widaehan suryong] and the great leader [widaehan yongdoja] on the vanguard, must score new upsurges in socialist construction.

Villages Reportedly Achieve 'Bountiful Harvest'

SK1011111393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 10 (KCNA)—Thrashing is in full swing in all rural communities of Korea.

According to data available, more than 76 percent of thrashing has been carried out today nationwide.

All rural villages in the plain, intermediary and mountainous areas are happy with the bountiful harvest higher than expected.

This year Paechon, Anak and Hwangju Counties in the plain areas foresee an increase of 40,000 tons each above last year's and Yongchon and Yomju Counties an increase of 35,000 tons and 20,000 tons respectively.

The per hectare yield of rice is 500-700 kilograms more than the very rich year and that of maize is over one ton more in Sinchon, Chaeyong, Mundok, Sukchon, Pyongwon, Unjoa, Taechon, Uiju and Pakchon Counties.

The crop yield is also high in the mountainous areas.

The Tachongdan County integrated farm in Yanggang Province has gathered in 20 tons of potatoes from each hectare on an average, 42 tons at maximum.

The fruit harvest has jumped 30 percent above last year.

The rural communities are concentrating efforts on winding up this year's farming as soon as possible with the approach of the 30th anniversary of the publication of the socialist rural theses.

'Big Productive Upswings' in Industry Noted

SK0911235893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1508 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 9 (KCNA)—Big productive upswings are being effected at many units of the national economy of Korea with the approach of the elections of deputies to the provincial (municipal) people's assemblies slated for November 21.

Workers of the Pukchang thermal power complex and the Sunchon thermal power station have raised the daily electricity production 20 to 30 percent above the same period last year by keeping the generators in full-capacity operation and increasing the output per generator. The March 17 hydraulic power complex is topping its daily quotas over 20 percent.

The coal output at the Sunchon and Kujang district coal mining complexes and coal mines in North Hamgyong Province over the last ten days is 15 percent higher than in the like period last year.

Having fulfilled their yearly plan at 100.5 percent on November 4, the workers of the March 26 plant are surpassing their daily assignments 20 percent with the goal of turning out much more electric wires by the end of the year.

The miners of the Komdok mining complex have turned out as one man in a drive to create 50 more promising cutting faces within this year while increasing production.

The transport of coal at the railway stations under the Ministry of Railways in the last one month was 1,500 wagons more than in the previous one month.

South Korea

'Unofficial' U.S.-DPRK Contact Reported

SK1011021993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0201 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Washington, Nov. 9 (YONHAP)—The United States and North Korea held an unofficial working-level contact in New York on Tuesday and discussed ways to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue. The contact, made at the request of North Korea, was made by C. Kenneth Quinones, North Korea desk officer at the State Department, and Ho Chong, deputy North Korean representative at the United Nations, sources said.

The meeting attracted considerable attention as it was the first contact between Washington and Pyongyang since the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution on North Korea, and South Korea and the United States held the Security Consultative Meeting (SCM) in Seoul last month.

One informed source in Washington said, however, "we understand that North Korea has made no special concession at the meeting. But the North Korean request for the meeting is a clear indication of Pyongyang's intention to seek a solution to the nuclear issue through negotiations with the United States," he said, requesting anonymity.

North Korea was apparently trying to find out the "true intention" of the U.S. Government as "an overall current" was taking a hardline position, sources said.

The United States and North Korea have held several behind-the-scenes contacts recently, but atmosphere suddenly hardened between the two sides after North Korea refused to resume dialogue with South Korea following the adoption of a resolution at the U.N. General Assembly.

Further on U.S.-DPRK Contact

SK1011080893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0715 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Report by Yi Tong-min]

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 10 (YONHAP)—Despite a proliferation of debate in the United States on sanctions against North Korea over the nuclear issue, the mood in Seoul on Wednesday was calm and quiet and the consensus was for flexibility not stridency. Confirmed reports that North Korea and the United States have held another working-level contact in New York boosted confidence that Pyongyang is hanging on to dialogue with Washington.

Wednesday's meeting was the fifth contact, and the first since Oct. 27. North Korea requested it, and South Korean officials say they understand that the two-pronged debate within the United States brought Pyongyang to the table again when all dialogue with Seoul and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is at a standstill.

The Oct. 31 deadline, which no one really called a deadline, has passed, and the North Korean nuclear problem stands on the brink. The only hand holding it back from falling is that of IAEA Director-General Hans Blix, who stated Nov. 1 that although the film and batteries in inspection cameras has probably run out the continuity of safeguards in North Korea is "damaged" but not broken.

U.S. State Department Spokesman Mike McCurry told a noon briefing Tuesday that there is still no formal deadline for action on the North Korean nuclear issue "but there is a practical deadline"—when the continuity is broken.

Because of the horrendous consequences that would result should he declare a break in continuity, Blix will be unable to make such a declaration until the time is "politically right," one official says.

Impatience is high as North Korea refuses to talk with the IAEA about allowing inspections nor with South Korea about an exchange of presidential envoys, the two preconditions for the next round of the Pyongyang-Washington high-level contacts. But Wednesday's low-level North Korea-U.S. contact gave Seoul and Washington more breathing space and the confidence that flexibility is still possible at this juncture.

"The very fact that North Korea requested the contact shows it is still clinging to hopes of getting concessions from the United States, that it hasn't really abandoned dialogue," said one official, declining to be identified. Pyongyang's unilateral cancellation of inter-Korean contact on Nov. 4 was just an attempt "to cool off" at this time of dilemma, he said.

The dilemma is, North Korea cannot bargain off IAEA inspections too easily because without it, it would have

fewer chips when dealing with the United States. To the Stalinist state, the inspection issue is too valuable to give way to the IAEA.

"North Korea is apparently feeling around, trying to figure out what Washington is thinking," this official said. "We have to weigh seriously what we have to gain by pushing the momentum toward sanctions at this time."

This official emphasizes "objectivity"—the ability to look and analyze North Korea's reactions without predetermination on future course of action.

"Of course, the basic stance is firm. This objectivity and flexibility shall not and will not cloud our judgment and end up giving North Korea time to develop nuclear weapons," he said. "But as long as we can remain reasonably sure that this is not the case, we can certainly exercise flexibility."

'Source' on U.S. Policy Toward North Korea SK1011003593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0024 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Washington, Nov. 9 (YONHAP)—The United States, discarding the "carrot," is now concentrating in studies on how to use the "stick" on North Korea after deciding that there is no hope for settling the nuclear question as part of an overall bilateral issue, diplomatic sources say.

"Progressive forces both in South Korea and the United States had been urging for a negotiated settlement of the North Korean problem," a source said. "But an argument by hardliners was gaining strength after Pyongyang had refused any further working contact between the South and the North."

A series of resolute measures against North Korea is being worked out by U.S. officials, led by the State and Defense Departments, the source said, requesting anonymity.

Those hardliners believe that the United States will suffer a considerable setback in its global strategy if North Korea completes its nuclear arms development program as it will trigger an arms race in the Northeast Asian region led by Japan, they said. In order to force North Korea to abandon the nuclear program, the U.S. officials are studying sanctions, including shipments of petroleum, against North Korea and a cancellation of high-level U.S.-North Korea talks. As for the economic sanctions, they are considering measures that include a plan to impose sanctions in stages, toughen them as they go along, and adopt a resolution for economic sanctions after a certain period of time, the sources said.

Some hardliners go even further, envisaging a naval blockade of North Korean ports and air raids against North Korean nuclear facilities, but their demands are regarded by most as having no practicability since they could trigger a war, they said. The sources made it clear that these plans were still in the stage of discussions.

"The North Korean nuclear issue has been discussed on the working level thus far," they said. "But if North Korea does not bring any change in its attitude, the National Security Council (NSC) under President Bill Clinton would begin substantial discussions in order to formulate a firm U.S. policy before South Korean President Kim Yong-sam visits Washington later in the month," they said.

In this connection, State Department spokesman Mike McCurry has said the North Korean nuclear issue has to be referred to the United Nations Security Council when the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) determines that the continuity in safeguards is broken. At the weekly press briefing Monday, McCurry thus indicated that the day on which the continuity in nuclear safeguards in North Korea will break is not far away.

U.S. officials, however, are divided as to how effective the U.N. Security Council's economic sanctions would be, the sources said. But if China abstains in the council vote, the effect of the proposed sanctions would be great. And if the situation reaches that stage, there is also a chance for North Korea to make a concessional move, they said.

In any event, the sources stressed, the basic position of the United States and South Korea that the nuclear issue has to be resolved through negotiations has not changed as yet.

U.S. Strategy on DPRK Nuclear Issue Analyzed SK1011103093 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 9 Nov 93 p 6

[Article by reporter Kim Su-chong in New York: "Chances are Very High the United States and North Korea Will Resolve the Nuclear Issue in a Package Deal"]

[Text] We stand face-to-face with a situation in which we have no choice but to find a clue to resolve North Korea's nuclear issue through a package deal between the United States and North Korea. The package deal envisages resolving the nuclear issue by offering the improvement of U.S.-North Korean relations in exchange for North Korea's acceptance of nuclear inspections. North Korea has clung to this method. The United States has demanded that North Korea "discuss the issue of improving U.S.-North Korean relations with the United States" subject to "its accepting inspections first."

The U.S. Government has never openly mentioned "a package deal." Only U.S. media, including THE NEW YORK TIMES, recently reported on the U.S.-North Korean behind-the-scene contacts held in New York by quoting a Washington source that the United States is considering the package deal. Our neighboring countries, including Japan, not to mention the ROK and the

United States, are also seriously predicting the possibility of military provocation by North Korea if measures to impose sanctions on North Korea are taken instead of a diplomatic solution. The package deal, therefore, is viewed as the only peaceful solution.

We are faced with a marginal situation in which a breakthrough for resolving North Korea's nuclear issue should be made through either negotiations or sanctions. North Korea is obligated to receive ad hoc and ordinary inspections, i.e., normal inspections [tongsang sachal], of nuclear facilities, which were already declared in the Nuclear Safeguards Agreement because North Korea withheld its decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT]. North Korea, however, stood firm to its position that it will allow only the replacement of film and batteries of monitoring cameras. This resulted in the suspension of inspections.

Hans Blix, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], points out that cameras might have already stopped working because their film and batteries were replaced last August. As a result, the continuity of safety measures for North Korea's nuclear facilities is questionable. In his report to the UN General Assembly, Director General Blix did not declare that "the continuity of nuclear safety measures was discontinued," but said that "the continuity of safety measures is impaired." His statement, however, contributed to reducing the risk of immediate sanctions. If no progress is made in resolving the nuclear issue through U.S.-North Korea negotiations soon, however, the international community has no choice but to take measures to impose sanctions through the UN Security Council. Interested parties including the ROK, therefore, are concerned about sanctions against North Korea and how North Korea will react to sanctions.

First, it appears the ROK Government is concerned about the possibility of North Korea's provocation. A joint statement adopted at the ROK-U.S. annual Security Consultative Meeting, the content of a joint news conference by ROK-U.S. defense ministers, and the content of the U.S. defense secretary's meeting at Chongwadae [presidential office] all express general messages of concern about North Korea's rejection of nuclear inspections. THE NEW YORK TIMES, however, reported that in a ROK-U.S. in-depth dialogue, the ROK said to the United States that "if North Korea is driven into a corner, there is a danger of provoking North Korea, therefore, measures for sanctions should be avoided." THE NEW YORK TIMES also reported that Japan had also seriously discussed with the United States the danger involved in sanctions when Secretary Aspin and his entourage visited Japan. ROK and Japanese concern about the danger involved in sanctions coincides with both countries' request to the United States for a prudent response to tension caused by North Korea's declaration of withdrawal from the NPT last March.

It has been analyzed that North Korea is now facing a serious food shortage problem because of last year's cold weather, therefore, it is in danger of exploding at a touch. Also, there is information that North Korea has deployed 70 percent of its military forces into the areas near the Demarcation Zone, from where it can immediately attack South Korea.

The United States said that if North Korea commits an armed provocation, it will not last for long. According to a scenario of the U.S. Defense Department, if North Korea wages war on the Korean peninsula, it will unilaterally lose a battle within 90 days. The ROK Government's position is, however, very prudent, because it is concerned about damage resulting from the situation in which North Korea commits joint suicide with South Korea.

Also, Japan is concerned about the far-reaching influence resulting from the provocation committed by North Korea. According to a report by THE NEW YORK TIMES, Japan is concerned about instability in Northeast Asia and about the North Korean refugees who may come to Japan when the present North Korean power collapses. Furthermore, it is predicted that Japan does not want a fundamental change in the situation on the Korean peninsula, in which the conflict caused by North Korea's provocation will ultimately lead to the reunification of Korea.

After visiting the ROK, U.S. Defense Secretary Aspin, as well as U.S. authorities who accompanied him, openly made remarks concerning the possible provocation by North Korea. It is also true that the U.S. Government is concerned about the far-reaching influence resulting from sanctions against North Korea. The Clinton government is very busy settling pending issues, including medical coverage and the North America Free Trade Agreement. If a step to impose sanctions on North Korea leads to a large-scale conflict, U.S. domestic affairs will be laid aside. The United States, however, cannot delay any longer the settlement of the North Korean nuclear issue because it has to maintain the "Nuclear Nonproliferation System," which it set as a task of high priority. Like the ROK, the United States is also in a dilemma to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue.

The ROK, the United States, and Japan want to avoid sanctions against North Korea. Therefore, U.S.-North Korean negotiations are the only way to resolve the issue. Despite the two rounds of U.S.-North Korean high-level talks and the several rounds of behind-the-scenes working-level contacts held in New York, the United States and North Korea have failed to even agree on the resumption of routine inspections. It is predicted that the success or failure of negotiations between the United States and North Korea is dependent on a package deal in which North Korea accepts the nuclear inspection and, at the same time, the United States takes steps to improve relations with North Korea.

It seems the ROK and the United States do not have any differences in opinions concerning the package deal. The ROK has already announced it will support the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and North Korea, but only if the nuclear issue is resolved. The matter is North Korea's intention. North Korea has obtained a considerable degree of concessions from the United States by using its nuclear development card. North Korea has persistently called for the establishment of diplomatic relations with the United States since the Korean war and, now, it may achieve it by using its nuclear development card.

U.S., ROK Options on Nuclear Issue Examined SK1011070293

[Editorial Report] ROK daily newspapers carry reports or articles on the North Korean nuclear issue on 10 November.

The moderate CHOSON ILBO on page 1 carries a 400-word report filed by Washington correspondent Chong Hae-yong with the headline "ROK, the United States Will Notify North of the 'Deadline for Nuclear Inspections'—ROK and U.S. Presidents Will Decide on the Deadline at the 23 November Talks."

Quoting a diplomatic source in Washington, the report says the presidents of the ROK and the United States will "discuss from all perspectives" the North Korean nuclear issue at the summit talks in Washington and decide on the deadline without waiting for North Korean offers for dialogue. The report also says that the deadline will most likely be 1 December.

CHOSON ILBO also carries on page 5 a 1,600-word article entitled "Theories on the Crisis on the Korean Peninsula Emerging—Atmosphere in Washington in the Aftermath of Clinton's 'Warning Against North."

The article first compares the ROK's opinion of the North Korean nuclear issue with the United States' opinion. It says that the ROK thinks that if North Korea is isolated. North Korea will "try to commit a 'joint suicide' with the South" and that the United States thinks that North Korea will not be able to last for more than 30 days even if it provokes a war because it has shortages of oil and food. The article also cites rumors that say that the United States has already mapped out a plan to wage the "second Iraq war" if North Korea fails to remove suspicions of its nuclear weapons development. It also cites other rumors on North Korea's request for economic assistance, saying that the United States has "resolutely rejected" North Korea's request for economic assistance and that North Korea's request for economic assistance has deadlocked U.S.-DPRK talks.

The article concludes by saying: "People in Washington generally believe that it would be difficult to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue through dialogue, and the United States' strong position and North Korea's head-on response may cause a crisis. Of course, the worst-case

scenario will not become a reality when North Korea returns to dialogue and begins negotiations. However, the United States has made it clear that it would not wait indefinitely until North Korea returns to dialogue."

The moderate HANGUK ILBO on page 5 carries a 1,400-word article by reporter Yu Sung-u entitled "North Korea's Action Amid Inaction—What Will Be Its Next Card?" Quoting an ROK Government official, the article says that North Korea will likely prefer negotiations and accept nuclear inspections, rather than a "catastrophe." After saying that "there still remains room for negotiations," the article concludes: "As Kim Kwang-chin, vice minister of the People's Armed Forces of North Korea, indicated when he said that 'we will respond to war with war and dialogue with dialogue,' North Korea still leaves room for the resumption of negotiations."

The pro-government SEOUL SINMUN carries on page 5 a 1,200-word article entitled "Delicate Period of Deliberation' for Sanctions—Breakup of the Continuity of IAEA Inspections Imminent."

The article says that there remain many procedures that must be gone through before UN sanctions are imposed and describes the importance of China's attitude in resolving the North Korean issue. The article concludes by saying that "because North Korea is unpredictable, tensions may be caused on the Korean peninsula and in its vicinity."

The moderate CHUNGANG ILBO on page 3 carries a 1,400-word article by reporter O Yong-hwan entitled "ROK and the United States Are Deliberating on Ways To Resolve the North Korean Nuclear Issue—Four Possible Options." The article says that the four options are "watch the further development of the situation, hold dialogue and negotiations, impose economic sanctions, and impose military sanctions." After elaborating on the four options, the article concludes by saying: "It is expected that the ROK and the United States will try to find a solution through negotiations after watching North Korea's attitude until 15 November, when a plenary session of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee will take place."

The moderate CHUNGANG ILBO carries on page 3 an 800-word editorial entitled "Is the Government's Security Posture Firm?". The editorial first elaborates on the results of the ROK Government's 10 November meeting of security-related ministers in which the ROK Government decided to continue its efforts to ensure that North Korea accepts nuclear inspections and in which the government judged that North Korea's military situation is not threatening. The editorial asks the ROK Government to formulate a "more resolute strategy" and "make all preparations for the possibility that North Korea may launch a counterattack."

Dailies Comment on Clinton's 7 Nov Remarks SK0911122393

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of editorials and articles from ROK newspapers regarding U.S. President Clinton's remarks on the "Meet the Press" program broadcast by the U.S. National Broadcasting Company on 7 November.

The moderate Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean on 9 November carries a 800-word editorial on page 3 entitled "Warning From U.S. President Clinton." The editorial first describes the urgency of the nuclear issue and the efforts by countries concerned to resolve this issue.

Referring to President Clinton's remarks that "North Korea knows that any attack on South Korea is an attack on the United States," the editorial reports: "U.S. President Clinton's remarks may be considered to be the repetition of a known fact that prevails under circumstances in which the ROK and the United States have been maintaining a joint defense system. As a matter of fact, his remarks are very significant. This is because the joint defense system is the best instrument to deter military adventurism."

The editorial concludes by reporting: "We sincerely ask North Korea's hard-liners not to miscalculate. We must know that our firm security awareness can prevent such a miscalculation. North Korea must ensure its nuclear transparency and shake hands with the international community. The door has opened wide."

The moderate Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean on 9 November carries on page 5 a 2,000-word article by Washington correspondent Chong Hae-yong entitled "U.S. Patience Has Reached Its Limits Over the North Korean Nuclear Issue—Background of Clinton's 'Strong Warning' Against North Korea." The article begins by saying: "U.S. patience appears to have reached its limits over the North Korean nuclear issue. It seems to have concluded that dialogue would no longer work."

Citing the fact that the former Bush administration began its attack on Iraq five months after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, the article, then, says that the "United States has begun to try to establish a base of support for any action by making its citizens understand that action is the only remaining option because it had made every effort it could to persuade North Korea with words." The article concludes that Washington's general speculation is that "a strong countermeasure by the Western countries led by the United States will be inevitable if North Korea maintains its previous position."

The pro-government Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean on 9 November on page 3 carries an 800-word editorial entitled "Clinton's Resolute Warning Against North Korea." The editorial first describes the tense situation on the Korean peninsula due to the North Korean nuclear issue and says that the United States appears to have started preparations for sanctions against North Korea with the judgment that sanctions are unavoidable.

The editorial then says that "in case sanctions are imposed, North Korea will very likely resort to provocations" and President Clinton's remarks are proof that "U.S. sanctions against North Korea are inevitable" and that the "United States takes the possibility of North Korea's provocation seriously." The editorial also considers his remarks as a "measure to prevent North Korea's miscalculation that it may overcome the crisis by resorting to provocations."

The editorial describes North Korea's recent forward deployment of 70 percent of its troops and food shortages facing the country. It then says that the food shortages may deal a serious blow to North Korea, adding: "We must be wary of and make complete preparations against North Korea's provocations or collapse."

The moderate Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean on 9 November carries on page 3 a 800-word editorial entitled "The Real Meaning of the Hard-line Remarks on North's Nuclear Issue." The editorial, expressing worries over the North Korean nuclear issue and the recent hard-line remarks by leaders of North and South Korea and the U.S. Government, stresses the need for our government to elaborate on the recent moves, adding that the utterance of these hard-line remarks are "illboding and serious moves." The editorial then notes the strong statements by ROK and U.S. defense ministers on the North Korean nuclear issue at their recent annual Security Consultative Meeting in Seoul, the resolution adopted at the UN General Meeting urging North Korea to accept the International Atomic Energy Agency's inspections, and President Kim Yong-sam's stern statement on the North Korean nuclear issue during his interview with THE WASHINGTON POST.

In particular, noting U.S. President Clinton's recent remarks and a British paper's report on alleged U.S. establishment of a plan to attack the nuclear facilities in Yongbyon of North Korea, the editorial indicates that "these actions remind us of the possibility that it will be inevitable to exercise arms chast'sement in imposing sanctions against North Korea if it continues to refuse inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency."

The editorial continues, "on the other hand, North Korea is also showing an obstinate attitude by repeating that it would not hesitate to fight a war against any military countermeasure, and that it will take strong measures against the UN resolution." The editorial further notes that North Korea gave an order to the entire Army to shave their heads to enhance military spirit, and decided to hold its annual plenary meeting of Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea one month early.

The moderate Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean on 9 November carries on page 3 an 300-word editorial entitled "North Nuclear Issue and Unusual International Move." The editorial says "contrary to

ROK's request not to take a hard-line measure against North Korea, the international community seems to have entered a countdown." The editorial warns that the situation is critical, noting U.S. President Clinton's remarks, a British paper's report, North Korea's forward deployment of its combat forces, the reinforcement of missiles in Yongbyon nuclear facilities, and food shortages.

Commenting on the North Korea's misjudgment that the PRC would veto the UN sanction, the editorial urges North Korea not to use a delay strategy in the nuclear issue and accept the nuclear inspection or accept the consequences of international isolation, because the nuclear issue is no longer a matter to be resolved through the one-on-one deal with the United States, and any tactics would not be acceptable to the international community.

Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean also carries a 1,000-word article on page 4 of the same issue written by Washington based correspondent Kim Haksun entitled "U.S. Cut-Off-Retreat Strategy in Negotiation With North." Commenting on the recent series of hard-line reports by U.S. and British media, the article says, however, there is little possibility that the United States would attack North Korea's nuclear facilities because "it is difficult to make the attack without ROK's agreement and the ROK would not agree to a situation that would surely evoke a second Korean war. Furthermore, attacking Yongbyon nuclear facilities would not lift all the suspicions over North Korea's nuclear development." The article, therefore, interprets the hard-line remarks by the United States as a cut-off-retreat strategy for the upcoming negotiations.

Noting that the package deal offer for the North Korean nuclear issue and the improvement of U.S.-North Korean relations is still in effect, the article also speculates that as in the Israel-PLO case, behind-the-scene negotiations may be under way while it looks like both sides are taking a hard-line stance.

The article reports some observers view that North Korea intends to resume negotiations with the United States after the ROK-U.S. summit meeting, and analyzes the "temporary" hard-line remarks by the two sides are to acquire a better position in the negotiation.

U.S.-ROX Fool Eagle Exercise To Begin 15 Nov SK1011054793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0538 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 10 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States will hold the joint military field training exercise codenamed "Foal Eagle 93" for about ten days from Nov. 15, the Combined Forces Command announced Wednesday. The exercise, to be held in various locations throughout South Korea, will involve the majority of South Korean forces and U.S. troops stationed in Korea, the announcement said.

The exercise is designed to test rear area protection operations and major command, control and communications systems. It also provides hands-on field experience for forces of the two countries.

The announcment said most exercise training sites are located well South of the Seoul metropolitan area, although some training will occur between Northern Seoul and the demilitarized zone.

Foal Eagle 93 is the 28th in a series of annual defensive training exercises, it added.

President, Security Ministers Discuss DPRK SK1011024693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0217 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 10 (YONHAP)—South Korean President Kim Yong-sam and U.S. President Bill Clinton will hold a final discussion on the North Korean nuclear issue on Nov. 23, Kim told a meeting of national security-related ministers on Wednesday. The North Korean nuclear issue was a matter of great concern not only to the Korean people but also to the world, he said.

North Korea refused to attend a working-level meeting on an exchange of special envoys for "an improper reason" despite the continual urging of Seoul and Washington to receive international inspections of its nuclear facilities, Kim said, and so the administration must review its policy concerning North Korea's recent movements and the related international situation.

He discussed the problem in depth with Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and Singaporean Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong in summits this week, Kim said.

At the meeting were Prime Minister Hwang In-song, Deputy Prime Minister and Unification Minister Han Wan-sang, Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, Home Minister Yi Hae-ku, Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae, Agency for National Security Planning Director Kim Tok and senior presidential secretary for foreign affairs and national security Chong Chong-ok.

No Signs of Provocation Seen

SK1011064393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0624 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 10 (YONHAP)—There is no sign of any provocation by North Korea, though it has strengthened its military mobilization system, South Korean President Kim Yong-sam and his national security-related ministers concluded in a meeting Wednesday. North Korea must be kept from developing nuclear weapons, and South Korea must prepare for any and all contingencies, Kim told the meeting.

He reminded his ministers that South Korea has no intention of "absorbing North Korea for national unification" and that his government is confident of its

capability to maintain peace on the Korean peninsula and guarantee the existence and prosperity of its citizens under all circumstances.

It is an important time to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue, Kim said, and he and U.S. President Bill Clinton will discuss in detail ways of strengthening cooperation between their countries on the issue when they meet in Washington on Nov. 23.

When he meets Chinese President Jiang Zemin in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation leadership meeting in Seattle on Nov. 19, he will ask China to use its influence to get North Korea to halt its nuclear weapons development program, Kim said.

Following the meeting, Kim attended a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a building to house five North Korean provincial offices.

There has been unusual military movement in North Korea, he said, but it "is not such that poses danger to South Korea."

The combined Korean and U.S. armed forces have the capability to defend South Korea from any attack, he said.

Daily Comments on Security Meeting SK1011075793 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 10 Nov 93 p 3

[Article by Pak Ui-chun]

[Text] On 10 November, President Kim Yong-sam chaired a security-related ministers' meeting at Chong-wadae [presidential office]. The meeting was aimed at finding a way to resolve North Korea's nuclear issue based on an analysis of the recent events in North Korea and at dissipating the people's concern about North Korea's nuclear issue.

Since last week, the U.S. press has carried many articles, particularly about hard-liners. A strange trend within North Korea has also been reported. In connection with North Korea's nuclear issue, the press in Britain reported that "there is a possibility that the United States will attack North Korea's nuclear facilities." The possibility of resolving North Korea's nuclear issue by a military countermeasure has been, after all, raised. As a result, the people feel uneasy. There are many people who say they are not aware of the government's nuclear policy, and are asking "where on earth is North Korea's nuclear issue leading?"

Worse still, by taking issue with Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae's recent remarks about "a military countermove against North Korea's nuclear issue," North Korea has refused to hold the fourth round of the North-South working-ievel contact, which was slated for 4 November, and has threatened to "respond to war with war." Rumors—that North Korea has deployed 70 percent of its military forces in the forward area, that it has

increased military munitions, and that it has reportedly ordered soldiers to have their hair cut—are circulating. Even the "rumor about the crisis on the Korean peninsula" has flared up.

Such a situation has taken place. This is because North Korea has refused to receive special inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency, because the North-South dialogue and the U.S.- North Korean contact are deadlocked, and because a dialogue channel to resoive North Korea's nuclear issue has been, in fact, cut off.

Prior to leaving for the United States on 18 November to attend the meeting of the leaders of the Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation, President Kim Yong-sam needed to review the security situation. In addition, to prepare for the summit talks with U.S. President Clinton (23 November), President Kim Yong-sam needed to outline the government's position toward North Korea's nuclear issue.

At the meeting, President Kim said: The North Korean nuclear inspection issue is a matter of great interest in the world, and all our people are very concerned over it. President Clinton and I will hold final discussions on the North Korean issue during our summit talks on 23 November.

This is similar in content with the U.S. press report that "the leaders of the ROK and the United States in their summit talks will give a deadline to the North Korean nuclear issue," and suggests that the two presidents will take a definitive step in this issue during summit talks.

However, the government official stressed: Although the ROK and the United States are now closely discussing the North Korean nuclear issue, discussion has not progressed to the stage of reaching an agreement on a deadline. The anticipated step would be that a firm signal will be sent to North Korea urging North Korea to accept nuclear inspection, leaving the door to dialogue with North Korea open, in principle.

Therefore, President Kim's remarks can be interpreted to mean that although the efforts for dialogue with North Korea will continue, if North Korea does not show a change in attitude prior to the Seartle talks, the discussion of sanctions on the North will be inevitable.

In connection with the North Korean nuclear issue, the government is very interested in the plenary meeting of the North Korean Workers Party Central Committee that is slated for 15 November. They hope that some decision on dialogue with South Korea, the United States, or the IAEA will be made at the plenary meeting.

Apparently, President Kim's remarks which stress the need to formulate a comprehensive measure to cope with North Korea's moves and to let the people and the world be aware of the government's firm position, are intended to implant a firm national security consciousness in the minds of the people.

The meeting concluded: "No indication has been found of an imminent North Korean attack, and the threats from North Korea are not yet serious."

This judgment is based on the fact that North Korea has always accepted dialogue after an initial strong response to pressure.

The international community is divided into two groups: One prefers to quickly impose sanctions against North Korea, and the other prefers to make further efforts to resolve the issue through dialogue. The security meeting appears to have been convened to alert North Korea that the ROK prefers to continue dialogue and that the international community's patience is dwindling.

Consequently, while the meeting of security-related ministers has provided a comprehensive measure based on the analysis of the international situation and the developments in North Korea, it has failed to find a solution to the North Korean nuclear issue.

Official: No Indication of 'Imminent' DPRK Attack

SK1011022393 Seoul TONG-A ILEO in Korean 10 Nov 93 p 1

[Text] In connection with North Korea's recent military development, a high-ranking ROK Government official said on 9 No er: "Military threats exist constantly. However, no indication has been found that North Korean attacks or provocations are imminent."

Another official concerned said: "It has been reported that North Korea has deployed its troops to forward areas. However, there is no significant change in troop deployment."

He also said: "We think that when Pyongyang was deploying troops in the vicinity of Pyongyang, the troop deployment may have naturally extended to Panmunjom. This may be the case."

Dailies Question Policy on DPRK Nuclear Issue SK1011043793

[Editorial Report] Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean, a dissident vernacular daily, on 9 November carries on page 3 an 800 word editorial entitled "Our Worries Over Military Attack, Provocation Plot." The editorial cites remarks by Defense Minister Kwon Yonghae at a bull session with editorial writers and commentators of local dailies on 21 September on the anticipated damage caused to the nation in case of a war on the Korean peninsula to the effect that the country will virtually be reduced to ashes. The editorial goes on to cite various recent foreign press reports on mounting tensions between North Korea and the United States over the nuclear issue, such as Britain's SUNDAY TIMES report that the United States has worked out a plan to attack the North Korean secret nuclear facilities with cruise missiles and that North Korea called a

provisional party Central Committee meeting on 5 November instructing the entire North Korean army to enter into a highly alert posture. The editorial, noting the increesing danger of war on the Korean peninsula, warns, "We urge both sides to stop immediately the sinister plots to start a war, being tempted for provocation, and the plots to wait for a provocation and retaliate it with a ten-fold counterattack." The editorial then questions the South Korean Government on whether it knows the U.S. plan to attack the North Korean nuclear facilities and asks what the government measures are to cope with this. The editorial then says, "The seriousness of the problem starts from the delay in resolving the North Korean nuclear issue. A package deal settlement should be made as soon as possible. North Korea should not grudge bringing about nuclear transparency and the United States promising the establishment of diplomatic relations with North Korea and the technological assistance for the light-water moderated reactors." The editorial then adds, "We make it clear that the United States should not dream of reckless military adventurism against Korea because the war will not take place in its own territory."

Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean, a moderate vernacular daily, on 9 November carries on page 5 a 1,100 word article by columnist Song Pyong-uk, chief manager of the editorial writers, entitled "How Are We Going To Stop the North From Pursuing Its Nuclear Program?" The article begins, "Many people say that they do not know what the government's national security policy is—particularly the government's measure to cope with the North Korean nuclear issue." The article goes on to note a variety of opinions expressed both at home and abroad as to how to deal with the North Korean nuclear issue. The article notes long and patient diplomatic efforts made so far to induce North Korea to accept nuclear inspection or to abandon its nuclear program. The article then says, "How can we be dragged along indefinitely in the dialogue which produces no fruition, allowing North Korea to buy time?" The article stresses, "We should make it clear what disadvantage North Korea will get in case it fails to resolve the nuclear issue. This is the stick called the sanctions by the UN Security Council. The potency of this card disappears if we-the greatest victim of the North Korean nuclear programshow hesitance even over the economic sanctions out of worry about North Korean retaliation. If the stick disappears, the remaining card will only be the carrot-the continuous concessions. The unclear attitude the government is taking toward the North Korean nuclear issue is bringing laxity in the people's vigilance." The article concludes by saying, "The government should establish a firm national security policy based on a more coolheaded analysis of the North Korean situation and its intentions in the post-Cold War era."

DPRK MiG-29 Assembly Plant Out of Production SK1011025893 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 10 Nov 93

[Retrieved from the Chollian Data Base]

[Text] It has been learned that the operations of the ultramodern MiG-29 jet assembly-production plant, which North Korea has built jointly with Russia in a bid to modernize its air forces, has been stopped for over one and a half years because Russia has not provided it with parts.

On 9 November, a well-informed diplomatic source about North Korea's situation said that since the MiG-29 jet assembly-production plant produced two MiG-29 planes by April last year to celebrate President Kim Il-song's birthday it has not produced anything.

The source revealed that the Russian side, which was supposed to provide all assembly-production parts, has asked North Korea to pay for parts in hard currency because of its economic difficulty and in view of its diplomatic relations with the ROK. As a result, North Korea, which lacks foreign currency, cannot but stop operating the plant because it cannot accept Russia's demand.

Saying that the capability of MiG-29 jets produced in the assembly-production plant is equal to those produced in Russia, the source added that if North Korea pays the price of parts in hard currency, it will be possible for North Korea to additionally produce MiG-29 jets.

It has been learned that since North Korea first introduced MiG-29 jets from the former Soviet Union in early 1988, North Korea has so far possessed approximately 10 MiG-29 jets, including the two assembly-produced planes. It has been estimated that MiG-29 jets can carry and drop nuclear bombs. In addition, the MiG-29's night-combat capability is excellent. The MiG-29 jet is more rapid than the ROK's major plane, the F-16.

In the meantime, because Russia has asked North Korea, which has depended upon Russia for most weapon systems, to pay for all parts and fuel in hard currency, North Korea has considerable difficulty in maintaining its military forces.

Foreign Minister Writes on ROK-Japan Summit SK1011061793 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 10 Nov 93 p 5

["Special article" contributed by Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu on the 6-7 November summit between President Kim Yong-sam and Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa]

[Text] President Kim Yong-sam held summit talks with Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa who visited Kyongju on 6-7 November. This was the first meeting of the ROK and Japanese top leaders since the two countries' new governments were inaugurated. The talks can be assessed as an important turning point for establishing new relations between the new ROK and the new Japan.

First, the recent talks were held in a natural atmosphere without formality as the Japanese prime minister's visit was made in the form of a working-level visit, this serving as a momentum for facilitating smooth dialogue between the two leaders in the future. It is easily seen among advanced European countries that top leaders of neighboring countries frequently exchange their opinions, whenever necessary, over issues concerning common interests in the rapidly changing international situation. It is desirable for the ROK and Japan also to fix such manners as soon as possible. The recent summit talks gave the ROK and Japanese people an opportunity to confirm the new leader's image of and the development on the international stage of each other's country.

Second, the talks were held in Kyongju, our ancient city that bears the breathing of a thousand year history. I think Kyongju is symbolic of a jumping-off place, where the history of ROK-Japan relations newly develops into one of simple-hearted and friendly relations after connecting the present and future with the past, when ROK-Japan relations were disconnected. The ROK and Japan established diplomatic relations after difficulties throughout the 15-year negotiations. Since then, they have held active personnel and material exchanges for more than 30 years, thus making the interdependence between the two countries greater than either one's relations with any other neighboring country. Despite all this history, they have rejected heart-to-heart exchanges because of the unfortunate past problems. The ROK and Japan, however, could not help but be wise to hold a harmonious view of the past, present, and future, as the wind of reform and change blew in both the ROK and Japan and as the situation around them became no more stable and transparent after the Cold War ended.

I think, from this viewpoint, Prime Minister Hosokawa's frank expression of Japanese reflection and apology for the past celenial rule as well as President Kim's remarks that we should no longer adhere to the past though we cannot forget it will be recorded in history as an important starting point for spiritual reconciliation between the people of the two countries. When we try to have a more objective view of Japan at present and in the future, and when Japanese people try to develop relations between the two countries while looking at the pest with a correct view of history, ROK-Japan relations will become reciprocal and stable. This is because ROK-Japan relations, in Northeast Asia and further in the Asia-Pacific region, are not those of confrontation but those capable of increasing and reproducing common interests through complementary cooperation.

Third, the leaders of the two countries made clear their political will to turn the ROK-Japanese friendly and cooperative relations into more practical and mutually advantageous ones. This was another reason why the summit talks gave hope for brighter prospects for future ROK-Japanese relations. At the summit talks the two countries agreed to faithfully implement the "ROK-Japanese Economists Forum" report submitted to the leaders of the two countries early this month to build

mutually beneficial and balanced economic relations. As a specific measure, the two countries agreed to form a consultative body to comprehensively discuss the ROK-Japanese new economic cooperative relations. The two sides agreed that the ROK will increase its exports to Japan in order to dissolve the chronic trade deficit with Japan and improve the environment for foreigners' investment so as to facilitate the Japanese investment in and their technology transfer to the ROK, and Japan will lower its various trade barriers and cooperate for our advance into the Japanese construction market.

The leaders of the two countries also agreed to further expand and enhance the quality of the exchange between the peoples of the two countries. This is also significant in expanding the exchange of the lower strata of society in bilateral relations. If the peoples of the two countries promote mutual understanding and trust through exchange, it will greatly help smoothly resolve various issues, large and small, unavoidable in the relations between neighboring countries. It is particularly noteworthy that Prime Minister Hosokawa showed deep interest in the exchange of youth and juveniles, including the expanded admission of ROK students into the Japanese educational institutions, who will shoulder the future of the relations between the two countries.

Finally, the summit talks provided a momentum for the development of the ROK-Japanese relations into regional partnership relations, transcending the scope of bilateral relations, taking into vision the Northeast Asian and Asia-Pacific region. The leaders of the two countries agreed to cooperate to bring an early resolution of the North Korean nuclear program, a major threat to peace and stability in Northeast Asia and to induce North Korea to open itself up in such issues as the negotiation for the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and North Korea. The two leaders also agreed to closely discuss at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation [APEC] summit scheduled in Seattle so that the APEC may play a key role in the Asia-Pacific regional cooperation, and to jointly investigate among the ROK, Japan, and Russia to prevent the dumping of nuclear waste in the East Sea, thus opening a new horizon to expand the ROK-Japanese cooperative relations into a regional scope.

The summit talks clearly put forth to the peoples of the two countries the proposition that the ROK and Japan should regard each other with a new awareness that they are the neighbors who have to jointly plow the rough waves in the post-Cold War era. The ROK and Japan should join their efforts, with open minds toward each other and with attitudes of respecting each other, to build good neighborly relations of mutual benefit and justice.

Japan To Probe Chongnyon Fund Flow to North SK0811114693 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 3 Nov 93 p 3

[By Tokyo-based correspondent Pu Chi-yong]

[Text] The Japanese prime minister's office has been collecting opinions of the need to impose economic sanctions on North Korea and on the most effective economic sanction since July, when it was bustling with the general election. One of the points discussed was the remittance by the General Association of Koreans Residing in Japan, Chongnyon. According to the I November issue of THE NEW YORK TIMES, millions of dollars are being carried into North Korea in suitcases or plastic bags via the North Korean ship Mangyong-bong-lio, and the amount reaches \$600 million a year.

It is a matter of common knowledge in Japanese diplomatic circles that Chongnyon funds are being infused to North Korea through the Mangyongbong-ho from Niigata, Japan, and the frads are a source for nuclear development, North Korea's foreign currency deposit, and espionage activities in the South. According to Japanese experts on North Korean affairs, North Korea's Gross National Product in 1992 was \$21 billion while the deposit of Chongnyon-line credit unions, including the Choun Credit Union, as of the end of July 1993 was \$21.7 billion. Thus, the deposit of Chongnyonline banks surpasses North Korea's GNP. Furthermore. Chongnyon-line slot machine business has a yearly turnover of \$36 billion to \$45 billion, twice the amount of the North Korean GNP. The Chongnyon funds are mainly hand-carried to North Korea, rather than remitted through formal routes, including bank transfers, to keep confidentiality. Various delegations frequently visit Pyongyang to make the money transaction, the Mangyongbong-ho even carries money for families as well as for visiting delegations. Approximately 9,000 Chongnyon travelers visit North Korea every year. Assuming each of them carries an average of I million yen, this would amount to \$100 million. Sometimes the money is hidden in disguised cargoes such as electric fans.

The Research Institute of Modern Korea in Japan, a group well informed on North Korean affairs, once calculated that the Chongnyon funds infused to North Korea totaled over \$700 million a year. Experts estimate that the minimum amount of foreign currency needed for North Korea to maintain its system is \$600 million to \$1 billion. Chongnyon's remittance to North Korea matches this amount. Although North Korea has earned some foreign currency through arms sales to the Middle East and through drug smuggling, the amount is limited. This is why experts believe that North Korea's economy would collapse if it was not for the remittance from Chongnyon. Accordingly, one of the sanctions being considered in Tokyo is customs inspection on North Korean ships departing Niigata. May it be small in scale, customs inspection on the Mangyongbong-ho is considered an effective sanction because it would block the road for the penetration of secret funds. Chongnyon is also a lifeline for North Korea's trade with Japan. Chongnyon companies act as trading agents for most of North Korea's trade, which has recently imported machi veries and transformers for basic industries from Japan, and exported processed textile products such as men's suits. Thus, experts say that if Japan takes a hard-line measure such as a trade embargo, it would cause a great damage to North Korea because the suspension of imports of machineries and transformers alone would stop plant operations and hinder the supply of electricity in North Korea where energy is short in supply.

The question is the limit of economic sanction and Japan's attitude. Japan is emphasizing that even if Japan blocks the remittance, in reality, it could not stop it from happening through a third country considering that North Korea would even use diplomats to smuggle the money. To block remittances to relatives in North Korea may also cause controversy from the humanitarian point of view. Even if the measures prove to be effective, the Japanese authorities also raise the question, what if North Korea takes a harder attitude being unable to cope with economic isolation?

Beijing is also reportedly worried that North Korean refugees might cross the border in case North Korea is driven to an economic crisis. Japan and the PRC share a common stance that it is best that North Korea stops bothering them and accepts nuclear inspections as soon as possible. They also share an inner desire to take the opportunity to enhance their right to speak in the military and security affairs of the Far East, and reinforce their military powers while the issues of ending the Cold War and the North Korean nuclear are of grave concern.

President, Singapore Premier Discuss APEC SK0911062293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0539 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 9 (YONHAP)—South Korean President Kim Yong-sam met Tuesday with Singaporean Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong and exchanged views on situations in East Asia and on ways to promote economic cooperation between their countries. In the first summit since the two countries established diplomatic ties in 1975, the two leaders expressed satisfaction over close bilateral relations, especially in trade.

Kim and Goh discussed, specifically, problems on how to combine each other's strong points and make joint investments in third countries and jointly provide developing countries in Asia with technical expertise of the two countries. The two leaders agreed that Korea would work closely with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in its efforts to help open an era of peace and prosperity for the Asia-Pacific region in the 21st century.

They agreed on the historical significance of the summit meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) to be held in Seattle later this month and exchanged views on practical ways of cooperation among the APEC countries.

President Kim explained to the visitor his administration's effort to build "a new Korea" and praised Singapore for having "a clean and model government."

Kim also thanked Singapore for participating in international efforts to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue as chair nation of the ASEAN this year.

Goh, who is visiting at the invitation of the president, is scheduled to attend a welcoming banquet Tuesday night and pay a courtesy call on Prime Minister Hwang In-song Wednesday before leaving for home.

Meanwhile, Singaporean Foreign Minister Wong Kan Seng, who is accompaning the prime minister, will call on Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu Wednesday [10 November] and sign an agreement for joint technological cooperation for third countries.

President Delivers Dinner Speech

SK0511125393 Seoul YONHAP in English 1201 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 9 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam said South Korea has as a goal of its foreign policy increased cooperation with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and development of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) in a speech at the dinner he hosted for Singaporean Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong Tuesday.

"I believe Prime Minister Goh's visit will provide an opportunity for the two countries to increase cooperation and build a partnership," he said.

South Korea and Singapore have set an example to many other countries in political development, and the efforts of the two countries in this light are an important move to usher in a new Asia-Pacific era, Kim said.

In his speech, Prime Minister Goh welcomed Korea's interest and participation in the ASEAN forum and expressed hope that his visit will promote productive cooperation between the two countries at the private k.vel.

Deeg Xinoping's Daughter Visits Secol

SK1011105893 Seoul YONHAP in English 1045 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 10 (YONHAP)—"I am very pleased to see the first translation edition of my book about my father published in Korea," s.id Deng Rong, the third daughter of Chinese paramount leader Deng Xiaoping, here in Seoul on Wednesday. Deng Rong is on a visit to Korea to attend a reception marking the publication of the Korean edition of her book. She said she hopes her book, "Deng Xiaoping, My Father," will prove helpful to better understanding of her father's unusual life and of things of China.

The book describes Deng Xiaoping's childhood and work-study tour of France as well as his rise to prominence and ultimately to China's supreme leadership.

"My father loves to talk with his grandsons and grand-daughters. This is why the families of our five brothers and sisters, numbering 16, live in the same house," Deng Rong said. She said her father now lives the life of a plain, retired old man.

Deng Rong was born in 1950 in Chongqing, Sichuan Province. She studied medicine at Beijing Medical School and often contributes articles to newspapers and magazines under the pen name, "Mao Mao."

She worked manual labor at a people's commune during the great cultural revolution period. Later she served as a third secretary at the Chinese Embassy in the United States, and vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.

Presently she is the deputy chairman of the International Friendship Association of China.

Tripartite Meeting Planned on Russian Dumping SK1011093293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0834 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 10 (YONHAP)—A Seoul-Tokyo-Moscow meeting opens later this month to prepare for a joint survey of the East Sea area where Moscow has been dumping radioactive waste, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday. The meeting will take place in the week of Nov. 22, first in the port city of Vladivostok to inspect Russian vessels that will be employed in the survey and then in Moscow to settle financing and other details, the Ministry said.

The tripartite effort was launched after Russia jettisoned tons of nuclear waste into the East Sea last month, inviting harsh protests from Seoul and Tokyo. Moscow suspended the dumping but threatens to resume because of the lack of on-land storage sites.

The survey is expected to cost about 500,000 U.S. dollars and South Korea plans to bear about one-third of it.

Meanwhile, the government established a task force Wednesday led by the Science and Technology Ministry to take charge of the internal preparations for the survey.

Army Reshuffle Based on Favoritism Criticized SK0911013793 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 8 Nov 93 p 3

[Text] Through Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae's special statement released on 2 October, one day after the 45th anniversary of the founding of the ROK Army, the Ministry of National Defense promised that "it would faithfully fulfill its primary duty after being reborn as the Army that would enjoy the people's love and confidence."

At that time, the military reflected on itself by saying in the statement: "The order of the Army has once been perverted, far from protecting public interest and justice, by some groups that adhered to favoritism out of regionalism and school relations or with an aim to gain certain interests. We also committed the fault of expecting and encouraging behind the scenes a certain human relationship."

The defense minister's statement was followed by promotions and reassignments of lieutenant, major, and brigadier generals of the armed forces and, in succession, suspicions were raised over illegalities committed by Army generals who held important posts. Soldiers have experienced various phenomena in the Army for over a month since the defense minister's statement was released. Now, they say that the "situation requires another special statement."

A good number of soldiers say that the current military authorities, which cry out for military reforms, are not different from the previous ones. They say the Army's security and its spirit are disturbed. Accordingly, there is a loud voice concerned about the possible wavering of the commanding authorities.

Of course, it is true that most soldiers expected much from the military reform when people involved in the 12 December [1979] coup d'etat and high-ranking generals belonging to Hanahoe [former privileged nonofficial group in the ROK Army] were discharged from service by force in the beginning of the new government. Misgivings and complaints about personnel changes began to grow, however, as frequent Army reshuffles—more than twofold from the past when reshuffles had regularly been conducted twice a year, in June and December—were conducted all of a sudden.

The sudden dismissal of Kim To-yun, former commander of the Defense Security Command [DSC], and the subsequent personnel changes of the DSC executive staff are regarded as a good example of the new government's Army reshuffle.

An Army general who works for the Ministry of National Defense said: "A surprise reshuffle of the Army is a very dangerous thing that makes soldiers feel bitter and frustrated. The soldiers nature is to hold on to honor and pride to the end even when they are to retire." He added that "Discharged soldiers who have negative feelings toward the Army can become a factor of the Army's unrest." Commanders of both the DSC and the Army's Training Command have been changed three times each in this year as a result of the new government's frequent Army reshuffles. People concerned say unanimously that it is hard to expect stable command of Army divisions under this situation.

Meanwhile, Army officials pointed out that more serious problems of Army personnel changes lie in reshuffles based on favoritism out of regionalism, school, and working relations with Army leadership and political circles.

In fact, in the last Army personnel changes, which were completed in October, generals who had been Hanahoe members were excluded from promotions and assignments to posts, while those who are from Pusan and South Kyongsang Province, the base of the new government's men of influence; and those who graduated from Seoul Kyongbok High School attended by Kim Tongchin, chief of the Army General of Staff, and many influential political figures; were promoted in large numbers.

Fourteen Army personnel hailing from Pusan or South Kyongsang Province were promoted to brigadier generals in the October personnel changes, while only 10 coming from this area were promoted as Army brigadier generals last year. Also, five graduates of Kyongbok High School, including Major General "K" who was put over a major division of the capital region, were promoted in October. The number of Kyongbok High School graduates who were promoted last month was more than that of any other high school graduates.

While on the other hand, not a single graduate of Kyongbuk High School was promoted to general in the Army. Graduates of this high school had been most influential in the Army until last year.

Most soldiers point out that another big problem is Army reshuffles based on favoritism out of kinship with the Army's top-level executives. This was proved by the Army's treatment of Hanahoe members. Major General "C" of the Defense Ministry and Major General "C" of the Army, who failed to have good relations with the Army leadership, were relegated to less important posts such as the Army Headquarters' Policy Committee. On the other hand, Major General "S" of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Field Corps Commanders "P" and "K" were appointed to important positions.

In addition to them, Colonel Pack Sung-do (31st Class of the Military Academy), who was submitted only to disciplinary punishment for stirring up trouble by spreading the list of Hanahoe members around Army personnel's apartment buildings in April, has recently been tentatively appointed commander of a major regiment on the front line. Besides reshuffles, such a way of treatment as the disbanding of an artillery battalion in charge of the armed reserve training site in Yonchon, where an incident of explosion happened in June, was pointed out as a main factor that disturbs soldiers' minds. In other words, the Army leadership cannot protect soldiers but makes them anxious, while being bent on studying the face of political circles including Chongwadae [presidential residence].

Regarding a series of inilitary reforms after the new government came to office, a field grade officer of the Defense Ministry said: "I think military reforms have been conducted extemporarily up to the present. We always have opportunities to correct politics that have repeatedly been misled. The Army, however, comes to an end once it has been misled. The Army is not a subject

of politicians' experiments. They should be aware that an easy-going attitude, a style of unit management based on results of studying outside faces, and reshuffles of forming factions are antinational and antistate just like the past military regime's coup d'etat."

Floor Leaders Fail To Set Assembly Schedules SK0711045693 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 7 Nov 93 p 2

[Text] Floor leaders of the ruling and opposition parties yesterday failed again to agree on normalizing the National Assembly operation due to differences on whether to investigate wrongs of the earlier administrations.

Rep. Kim Yong-ku, floor leader of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP]; and Rep. Kim Tae-sik, his counterpart in the opposition Democratic Party [DP], met at the Assembly yesterday morning to discuss the normalization of the Assembly, but failed to reach a compromise.

Due to the deadlock, the deliberation of next year's budget, the primary task of the regular Assembly session, will be delayed for a considerable period of time.

Opposition floor leader said that his party would hardly be able to tackle the budget and other pressing national issues unless the ruling party promises to investigate the abduction of Kim Tae-chung from Tokyo by Korean intelligence agents in 1973 and other misconduct of the earlier administrations.

Kim Tae-sik also demanded that the Assembly revise "anti-democratic" laws including the Agency for National Security Planning [NSP] Law and the Anti-Eavesdropping Law within the current Assembly session.

DLP whip Kim did not budge a bit, asking the opposition party to normalize the Assembly operation retracting its preconditions.

The DP's Kim showed flexibility, saying that his party is willing to postpone the revision of the much-disputed National Security Law to the next extraordinary Assembly session. But he insisted on the revision of the NSP law and the anti-bugging law within the current Assembly session.

Kim, in particular, urged the ruling party to cooperate in forming a special Assembly committee to investigate Kim Tae-chung's kidnapping.

The two whips agreed to meet again tomorrow afternoon at the Assembly to discuss Assembly proceedings.

Plan To Open Trade on 14 Farm Products Opposed

SK0911003493 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 9 Nov 93 p 8

[Text] The National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF) yesterday strongly protested against a reported government move to open the market for 14 more farm products except for rice regarded as non-trade concerns (NTC). The NACF sent a letter to the government and the National Assembly, urging that imports of all 15 items not be allowed for the survival of farmers.

Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ho Sinhaeng recently hinted that Korea is willing to allow imports of 14 products except for rice as a compromise at the multilateral Uruguay Round talks. The products include barley, bean, corn, red pepper, garlic, onions, sesame, potatoes, beef, pork, chicken, milk and dairy goods.

"The 15 items are basic agricultural products important for food security, the main income source of farm households and the regional farming economy," said the NACF letter issued on behalf of 6 million farmers.

The federation further demanded that the government cancel advance notice of its import liberalization of agricultural goods for the next three years because the nation is suffering from continued trade deficit.

Exports to Industrialized Countries Face 'Crisis'

SK0711050093 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
7 Nov 93 p 8

[By staff reporter Sa Tong-sok]

[Text] Korean exports to industrialized countries are facing a crisis due to the loss of the competitiveness of its goods. According to a report on recent export trends released by the Economic Planning Board [EPB], exports to Japan during the first eight months of this year declined 3.4 percent from a year ago and those to the European Community also posted a fall of 3.4 percent in the period.

Shipments to the United States edged up 1.1 percent in the January-August period but the gain was much lower than Korea's average export growth, the report said.

The EPB said Korea's recent export momentum has been buttressed by a relatively sharp increase in shipments to China and other developing countries while exports to advanced nations are increasingly hitting snag.

Analysts say it will be all but impossible for Korea to seek an economic upturn through export promotion if it fails to remain competitive in industrialized nations.

The report said Korean exports to the U.S. and Japan slipped at an annual rate of 4.1 percent and 0.9 percent, respectively, during 1989-92.

As a result of the export slump to the developed world, the portion held by the U.S., EC and Japan in Korea's total exports is shrinking. Their portion, which reached as high as 69 percent during 1986-88, slumped to 58.7 percent in 1989-92 and 48 percent in the January-August period of this year.

The report attributed Korea's export slump to the developed world basically to the high price and low quality of Korean goods.

"High wage increases outpacing productivity growth, coupled with rises in financing, land and logistics costs, are bringing Korea's competitiveness in the developed world to the brink of collapse," the EPB analyzed in the report.

Since 1988, wages have grown at a faster pace than productivity growth, pushing Korea's labor costs sharply upward.

The ratio of financing costs in the manufacturing sector has also shown marked increases since 1987. The ratio, which stood at 4.7 percent in 1987, surged to 6.3 percent last year after climbing to 5.1 percent in 1990 and 5.7 percent in 199!.

Korea's financing cost ratio in 1990, 5.1 percent, was twice as much as Japan's 2.1 percent and Taiwan's 2.5 percent.

The report said Korean goods are also suffering from low quality. Last year the ratio of failures of Korean export goods was computed at 4.4 percent, compared with Japan's 1 percent and Taiwan's 1.2 percent. In the first nine months of this year, the number of claims against Korean export goods from foreign buyers reached 620, approaching the 625 recorded for the whole of last year.

The report found plenty of problems in Korea's nonprice competitiveness. It said Korean manufacturing companies fall far behind developed countries in their ability to develop new products and technology.

Burma

Karen General on Talks Between KIO, SLORC BK0711023293 Bangkok THE SUNDAY POST in English 7 Nov 93 p 18

[Interview with General Bo Mya, chairman of the Democratic Alliance of Burma and leader of the Karen National Union, with Ralph Bachoe in Bangkok: date not given]

[Text] Peace talks being held between Slorc [State Law and Order Restoration Council] and the Kachin Independence Organisation (KIO) are part of the attempt by Burma's military regime to drive a wedge into the unity of the country's armed opposition, claimed Democratic Alliance of Burma (DAB) chairman Gen Bo Mya.

Slore recently announced it was close to signing a peace agreement with the KIO, the military wing of the Kachin Independence Council (KIC). The Kachin forms the strongest and largest group after the Karen in the DAB. DAB is an umbrella organisation made up of 20 dissident groups which includes students and elected politicians who fled the country to the Thai-Burmese border after the popular democracy uprising in 1988 and the 1990 general election which was ignored by the Slore.

The DAB chairman, who is also leader of the Karen National Union (KNU), said the Slore's new strategy is to infiltrate the armed alliance and sign individual peace treaties with its members to make the revolutionary groups bow to its wishes. He accused the Slore of lacking sincerity in solving the ethnic minorities problems. Their so-called peace offers and treaties are aimed at disintegrating the alliance and ensuring continued military domination in Burma.

Gen Bo Mya made the statement in an interview with Sunday Perspective during his brief stay in Bangkok on his way to Manerplaw, the KNU headquarters and base of the Burmese parallel government.

The stocky 66-year-old general expressed bitterness with the KIO's defection. He lashed out at KIC Chairman Brang Seng for betraying the DAB by holding talks with the Slore (the ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council).

He said Brang Seng is one of the pioneers of the DAB who participated in the drawing up of its constitution, so he knows when negotiating with Slore it has to be done as a group and not on an individual basis. He described Brang Seng's move as an act of betrayal not only to the Alliance but to the Kachin people as well.

However, he said if the Kachin leaders have realised the error of their ways and decide to reform by scrapping the peace talks with Slore they are welcome to return to the DAB fold. But if they continue to deal with the enemy, then he will have no choice but to abandon them. "I

consider them as brothers always and have a strong attachment to the Kachin," he said.

Gen Bo Mya said that he has been informed that the rank and file in the KIO are unhappy with Brang Seng's decision to cut a deal with the Rangoon government.

"That is the reason why I will continue to organise all the Kachin people and those in the rank and file of the KIO who desire genuine peace," he said. "It was the Kachin leadership alone that is to be blamed."

The Kachin guerrilla group was the fifth to defect to Slore since the military junta announced in November last year a unilateral ceasefire with the guerrillas and asked for bilateral talks.

Commenting on the situation, the Karen leader said these groups have now begun to realise their mistakes. "They have contacted me and the DAB realising that they have noting to gain by negotiating with Slore and have now begun to resume their revolutionary activities.

"If they (the Slorc) really desire genuine peace for the country, they must hold face-to-face talks with all opposition organisations, both armed and unarmed alike, to find the solutions at the negotiation table," Gen Bo Mya emphasised. It is "useless for Slorc to declare ceasefires when they refuse to talk to the opposition groups and come to terms" to address the problem of peace and unity in the country. "This is a political problem, and we need to find a political solution to it. They are restricted from discussing politics, so it is useless for both the DAB and the KNU to talk to these people."

The general said what the DAB desires, if the military regime wants to establish peace and unity in the country, is for Slore to initiate a nation-wide ceasefire and to announce to the people of Burma and the world of their intentions to hold talks with the DAB. The talks must be held in a neutral country like Thailand and not in Burma. Also a United Nations representative must be present at the talks. And as a gesture of Slore's sincerity they must release Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and all political prisoners and restore full democratic rights to the people.

When asked about the peace overtures he recently made to the Slore, he said it was done in his capacity as chairman of the DAB and not the KNU. He said two letters were delivered to Slore Chairman Gen Than Shwe explaining DAB's stand on establishing peace and unity in the country to counter rumours that the DAB and the KNU were not interested in ending the turmoil in Burma.

"We are always seeking peace, true peace, unlike the Slorc which is not sincere about it," Gen Bo Mya said. He also revealed that the KNU had turned away several emissaries sent by the Slorc to enter peace negotiations with them because it was against the DAB policy.

The poker-faced general who is often photographed looking stern broke into a smile and then loud laughter

when told that readers have never seen a cheerful looking Bo Mya in newspaper publications. He replied that unlike some people he can't lie. "I like talking straight. If I have something to say, I say it straight to one's face."

He cited as example the secret talks conducted between the KIO leadership and the Slorc which began since the last rainy season. "When we confronted them (Brang Seng) on the issue we received a point blank denial. But when the BBC came out with the announcement of the on-going negotiations between the two sides, they had to admit that they had been deceiving the DAB all along" said the general with a smile.

Talking about the students the Karen general said they should never have to worry about the KNU entering into a peace agreement with the Slore. "The KNU will never abandon the students since it strictly adheres to the DAB policy of negotiation by a single body comprising all members of the Alliance," he said. He added that the KNU is concerned about the welfare of the students who must be strong-willed and dedicated to the cause and not be side-tracked by unfounded rumours.

The All Burma Students Democratic Front (ABSDF), who are fighting alongside the opposition politicians and ethnic groups demanding autonomy from Rangoon, announced a few days ago that it will only "accept negotiations on behalf of our umbrella rebel group (the Democratic Alliance of Burma)". Naing Aung, chairman of the ABSDF told reporters at a jungle camp in Burma, "The militia student community condemns Slore for cutting deals with individual armed factions".

According to REUTERS, Naing Aung said: "Despite the Kachin agreement with the Slore I am confident that the over one thousand students who have been fighting alongside the Kachin will continue fighting." The ABSDF has yet to hear from the students on the Kachin front since the KIO announced the split.

Gen Bo Mya claims that 44 years of struggle as revolutionaries have taught them to differentiate between right and wrong in conducting a revolution. Others lacking this experience have been taken in by the cunning enemy, held negotiations, and finally surrendered. The KNU, however, will never be intimidated by the enemy to do this. "We will carry on with our struggle until human rights and peace are restored to the country," the general insisted. Gen Bo Mya wants all other ethnic groups and organizations to think carefully before deciding on the future to avoid falling into the trap of the enemy.

In the past when the Burma Socialist Programme Party announced amnesty orders, a lot of organisations and many leaders surrendered and returned to the legal fold. He believes those people must have done something wrong to take advantage of the amnesty granted by the military. The KNU as a revolutionary force, he said, will never accept amnesty because it has done nothing wrong.

Talking about the Chinese arms supply to the Burmese regime, Gen Bo Mya said that during his trip to the United States in June this year he had been assured by top U.S. government officials that the Chinese will be persuaded to stop the arms flow to Rangoon. He also revealed the growing Chinese influence in Burma, especially in Mandalay where more than 20,000 Chinese families from the mainland have settled.

Another source said Burmese military officials are learning the Chinese language while the Chinese have made operating Burmese tutorial classes a booming business for the citizens of the northern Burmese capital. The general expressed concern that in another five to ten years Mandalay could become another Tibet if the flow of Chinese immigrants is not nipped in the bud.

Asked about his recent trip to London, during which he was accompanied by CRDB (Committee for Restoration of Democracy in Burma) Chairman U Tin Maung Win and Pado Aung San of the KNU, the general said the sole purpose of his visit was to counter Slore propaganda.

A team of Burmese bureaucrats led by a Slorc official recently made trips to the United States, Australia and Europe to tell the world that all is well in Burma and that steps are being taken to form a democratic government. Gen Bo Mya refuted it, saying both the Burman and the country's minority races are being persecuted. Many of them have been forcibly removed from the homes and land at a short notice and relocated to wayout places.

His statement was backed by a visitor who recently returned from Burma that such practices are common not only in the districts but also in the suburbs of Rangoon. He said he had the opportunity to clarify many points about the true situation in the country during the three BBC interviews during his stay in London.

General Says DAB Only Conduit for Talks

BK0811121593 Oslo Democratic Voice of Burma in Burmese 1430 GMT 7 Nov 93

[Text] Dear listeners. During October, the Democratic Voice of Burma had a telephone interview with Gen. Saw Bo Mya, who was in England. Gen. Saw Bo Mya explained his opinions on the peace initiative with the SLORC [State Law and Order Restoration Council].

[Begin Mya recording] The SLORC has insulted, oppressed, and killed people, and it is not possible to negotiate with them in this situation. It will be another case if they relinquish their military dictatorship (?according to democratic principles) and restore full democratic rights. The DAB [Democratic Alliance of Burma] will always stand by the people and strive for the benefit of all. We can never be selfish. The DAB that we formed has its own rules and regulations. Members of the DAB are not supposed to hold individual talks with the SLORC. If the SLORC wants to hold negotiations,

the DAB will do so after reaching an agreement through discussions with DAB members. We cannot do more than that. [end recording]

Home Minister Departs for Conference in Bali BK0911143393 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Lieutenant General Mya Thinn, member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council and minister of home affairs, left Yangon [Rangoon] by air this morning. He is to attend a ministerial conference and high-level official meeting on population matters sponsored by the Nonaligned Movement to be held in Bali, Indonesia, from 9 to 13 November.

Deputy Health Minister Returns From Dhaka BK1011011193 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 0630 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Colonel Than Zin, deputy minister of health, and a Myanmar [Burmese] delegation returned to Yangon [Rangoon] by air yesterday from Dhaka, Bangladesh, after attending the 11th Southeast Asian Region Health Ministers' Conference from 1-3 November.

Fishermen Warned To Avoid Drilling Site BK0811150893 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] The Fisheries Department announced today that drilling of test wells will continue in the blocks latitude 13 degrees 01 minute 50.2 seconds north, and longitude 96 degrees 52 minutes 32 seconds east off the Tenasserim coast from 7 to 14 November for Yetagun trial boring and geo-technical investigation by the survey vessel M.V. Mariner under the agreement between the Myanmar [Burma] Oil and Gas Enterprise and Texaco Exploration Myanmar Incorporated.

The department has issued a mariner notice warning fishing vessels not to operate during this period in the vicinity of the drilling areas.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Iraqi Speaker Confers With Foreign Minister
JN1011094393 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio
Network in Arabic 0400 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] [Iraqi] National Assembly Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih met with Malaysian Foreign Minister Adullah Ahmad Badawi in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. The Malaysian foreign minister reiterated his country's rejection of the continuation of the unjust blockade imposed on Iraq and its earnest international endeavor to end this

blockade because of its serious repercussions on the life of the Iraqi people who are exposed to starvation and deprived of medicine.

Abdullah Ahmad Badawi praised the heroic stand of the people of Iraq while confronting the aggression, facing the effects of the unjust blockade, and overcoming the negative results of this blockade thanks to their deeprooted cultural heritage. He also praised the Iraqis' emergence from this situation as a strong people. The Malaysian foreign minister underscored his country's interest in deepening friendship and cooperation between the Malaysian and Iraqi people.

Sa'di Mahdi Salih reviewed the stages of the aggressive scheme aimed against Iraq, its security, and independence. He also reviewed Iraq's stands on the UN Security Council resolutions and the results of the inspection teams' visits to Iraq.

Envoy to UN Unveils Policy on Immigrants

BK1011055993 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0352 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Nov. 10 (OANA—BERNAMA)—Malaysia will continue to keep out illegal economic immigrants but she is very sympathetic towards the plight of defenceless refugees, a Malaysian official told a United Nations meeting Tuesday.

A counselor with the Malaysian Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York Mazlan Muhammad said the country's first responsibility was to provide adequate living standards and economic opportunities to its own people.

Until we have fulfilled this obligation, we cannot but keep illegal economic immigrants out, he said, when addressing the 48th UN General Assembly session pertaining to refugees.

Explaining the difference in treatment, Mazlan said illegal economic immigrants left their countries solely in search of economic opportunities while refugees and displaced people were forced to flee their homeland to escape civil strife, political, or economic oppression, and natural disaster.

According to him there were 7,986 so-called boat people left in Malaysia, of which only 796 were refugees, 1,500 still under review and the rest illegal immigrants.

Regardless of their status, these people are under the protection of the Malaysian Government until their future can be determined. Our effort at present is focussed on voluntary repatriation of those classified as illegal immigrants while continuing efforts to resettle the refugees in third countries, he said.

Commentary Hails New Ties to South Africa

BK0911122793 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] The decision to establish diplomatic ties between Malaysia and South Africa is long overdue. It comes a month after Malaysia lifted trade and economic sanctions against South Africa. The move will go a long way in promoting mutually beneficial relations between the two countries. This means, and that, it include both between businessmen and at the governments' level.

Malaysia is well positioned to play a major role in enhancing the economic standard of the black majority—both the private and the public sectors, tenders, free trade and financial investment, tourism, training, and joint ventures. Malaysia would also very much like to see South Africa once again take its rightful place in the international community. At the same time it should be accorded full membership of the various world organizations.

South Africa has the lead being on a promotional group to draw foreign investment to the country. It is dubbed to serve as the Asian gateway to the continent. But at the same time, it is being honored by not trying to hide the political disturbance ahead. As the nation advances toward pre-elections next year, efforts are being made to replace trade sanctions with trade missions. The country promises that decades of partitions, putschings is giving way to practical compromise. The African country is irrevocably on the road to democracy. The time has come for other countries to do their utmost best to help in the country's economic reconstruction.

With the diplomatic ties, there is a lot South Africa can learn from Malaysia in maintaining peace and order and in building up the economy. Malaysian businessmen must prepare to invest in a country, said to be the most dynamic in their economy.

South Africa also has a very good resource and manufacturing base. Now Malaysian businessmen can deal directly with South Africa without having to go through third party. Also, South Africa is not waiting for the results of the elections next April. Besides promoting investment, it is capitalizing on its many tourist attractions by going all out for more tourist (?trade). Anywhere there are countries trying to position themselves to benefit from global trade. All perceptions and prejudices in South Africa must go. They should give way to open minds and hearts where racial and other barriers which obstruct freer export and trade should come tumbling down.

Protectionism will work against those who practiced it. The developing South will not stand for any such non-sense from the North. Asian countries, including Malaysia, attempt to set up trade ties with emerging

economies like South Africa. Unlike the North, Asian countries will not exploit South Africa.

Let's hope the new South Africa will emerge free from the stare and rise to a new dawn.

Commentary Views Upcoming APEC Meeting

BK1011112193 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] Several issues pertaining to trade and investment are due to be raised and debated on at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, APEC, at their economic ministers meeting to be held in just over a week in Seattle.

It will be worth recalling that APEC was founded in 1989 as a new group of 15 countries comprising the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, China, Hong Kong, South Korea, and the six-member ASEAN grouping. Collectively, APEC nations account for half of the world's gross domestic product, GDP, and 40 percent of global trade.

East Asian nations in particular, have boasted the world's highest economic growth rates since the 1980's. Malaysia, as a member of APEC and ASEAN, has registered one of the most rapid growth in the world, and this, despite the (?inflation) that is gripping, isn't the most industrialized country. [sentence as heard]

Malaysia's delegation to the Seattle ministerial meeting will be led by the minister of international trade and industry, Datuk Sri Rafidah Aziz. She is expected to dwell on the future of APEC and the direction that needs to be taken. Most APEC leaders are agreed that the APEC forum should not be turned into a trade bloc. Instead it should remain as a forum for a global, freer trade. The APEC countries should call the grouping, as its name suggests, as the means to increase cooperation among themselves in the field of trade and investment. In this respect the United States has a leadership role to play-that it should not dominate APEC. It is encouraging to note that American officials have attempted to [word indistinct] the forum, particularly of East Asian countries, and assured them that APEC will not come under the American shadow.

Australia intends to propose that the acronym APEC be changed to Asia-Pacific Economic Community. The Australian premier, Paul Keating, asked for consultation with each country, while influential corporate leaders appear ready to cover a host of ideas to be presented in Seattle. However, some of his counterparts do not feel comfortable with the case at which Australia is leading towards an economic community. They have counseled patience. Their reaction could be based on the belief that the term community will be attuned to what the Europeans and the North Americans are doing in their respective groupings.

East Asian nations fear an increasing trend toward protectionism. Unlike them, the Asia-Pacific grouping must be aware of the fact that their countries are still [word indistinct], much too buried in their economy and cultures despite thinking in the same veins as the Europeans and the North Americans.

What is needed right now is for the APEC forum to proceed forward as an effective trade policy body and to draw a fair level of cooperation and interdependence between their economies. The group of ASEAN has to be taken step by step, not hastily. [sentence as heard] Much attention will naturally be focused on the Uruguay Round of GATT talks at the ministerial meeting, and the leaders are expected to issue a strong statement calling for the successful conclusion of the negotiations by the set deadline of December 15.

In the meantime, it is up to APEC to keep alive the banner of freer trade and investment, and promote the grouping on a regional basis in order to further enhance the economic growth and development of each 15 member countries.

Cambodia

Further on Visit by DPRK Premier Kang Song-san

Ranariddh Offers Toast at Banquet

BK0911133293 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Speech by Prince Norodom Ranariddh, first prime minister, at 8 November banquet in Phnom Penh honoring the DPRK delegation headed by Premier Kang Song-san: recorded]

[Text] Mr. Prime Minister, highnesses, madames, excellencies, ladies, and gentlemen: The people of the Kingdom of Cambodia are extremely satisfied and delighted this evening to see that one of their great friends is paying a visit here. I have the great honor to express in the august name of His Majesty [H.M.] King Norodom Sihanouk Varaman, our venerated monarch; in the name of his royal consort, Queen Norodom Monineat Sihanouk; in the name of His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, second prime minister of the Royal Government; in the names of all Cambodian people, and in my own name our warmest welcome to H.E. Kang Song-san, premier of the State Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea [DPRK]. [applause]

Mr. Prime Minister, highnesses, madames, excellencies, ladies, and gentlemen, when one mentions the beautiful DPRK, the first thing that comes to my mind is the words "great friendship." Respected and beloved great leader of the Korean people and nation, H.E. Marshal Kim Il-song, president of the DPRK and beacon of

mankind who is well versed in the chuche principle, has displayed colossal, close, extremely warm, and immortal friendship toward our venerated and beloved king. [applause] The magnificent friendship that the Korean people and their high-level leaders have forged with our Cambodian people and august king is sincere, interested, based on goodwill, and is growing increasingly stronger and closer. This friendship is firm and unshakable. It is full of generosity, especially when the valiant Cambodian people were struggling for liberation, consolidating national reunification, and fighting for peace and national reconstruction within the framework of independence, sovereignty, unity, and territorial integrity. This friendship has taken deep roots and become a fraternal friendship, a staunch and immortal friendship, an intimate friendly bond between our two peoples, our two nations, and between our top leaders. It possess an exquisite trait that is beyond description and it is indestructible. [applause]

Mr. Prime Minister, highnesses, madames, excellencies, ladies, and gentlemen, this friendship has manifested its significance in the very joyous circumstances of the historic event that has taken place in the Kingdom of Cambodia; that is, the adoption and promulgation of a new Constitution which has brought back the Cambodian monarchy, and the fact that H.M. King Norodom Sihanouk Varaman graciously agreed to ascend the throne again. These are institutions of Cambodia which respond to the earnest will and aspirations of the Cambodian people and form a solid foundation for national unity, national reconciliation, and the creation of new achievements for our beloved motherland.

Mr. Prime Minister, highnesses, madames, excellencies, ladies, and gentlemen, this evening I and the Cambodian people would like to express our respect permeated with admiration during the stay [as heard] in the People's Heaven Palace for the wonderful and many fine achievements made under the leadership of H.E. Marshal Kim Il-song, president of the DPRK, father of Korea, leader of liberation, architect of liberation, and great hero of overall development. [applause]

We would like to pay our respect to and admiration for H.E. Marshal Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Armed Forces of the DPRK and respected and beloved leader of the Korean people, for the brilliant success of Chuche-styled socialist construction which has turned Korea into an invincible, great, and modern country. [applause]

Mr. Prime Minister, highnesses, madames, excellencies, ladies, and gentlmen, I would like once again to solemnly underline here Cambodia's unreserved and unswerving full support for the correct, wise, and patriotic 10-point political program that H.E. Great Marshal Kim Il-song has advocated in order to bring about national reunification, independence, and peace on the Korean peninsula. [applause]

I would like to stress once again our full support for the DPRK position formulated by the respected and beloved leader of the Korean people concerning the conversion of the Korean subcontinent into a zone free of nuclear arms or nuclear proliferation, and our support for all the work undertaken both now and in the future for final success. [applause]

In testimony to the friendship and profound confidence in the growth and development of the all-around cooperation between our two countries, between our two nations, I invite Mr. Prime Minister, highnesses, madames, exellencies, ladies, and gentlemen to please raise a toast to the health, long life, and success of H.E. respected Marshal Kim Il-song, president of the DPRK; to the health, long life, and success of H.M. King of Cambodia Norodom Sihanouk Varaman; to the health and long life of his royal consort Queen Monineat Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia; to the health and happiness of H.E. Marshal Kim Chong-il, beloved leader; to the health of H.E. Kang Song-san, premier of the State Administration Council of the DPRK; to the health of H.E. Hun Sen; to the health of your highnesses, madames, and excellencies present here; to the health of dear Korean friends and all compatriots present here; and to the immortal and long-lasting friendship between the Kingdom of Cambodia and the DPRK. Thank you. [applause]

DPRK Premier Returns Toast

BK0911140193 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Speech by Kang Song-san, premier of the State Administration Council of the DPRK, at a dinner hosted in his honor by Cambodian co-prime ministers Prince Ranariddh and Hun Sen in Phnom Penh on 8 November—recorded in Korean fading into Cambodian translation]

[Text] My respects to Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh, first prime minister, and His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, second prime minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia [RGC], and all Cambodian friends: I am pleased to thank the RGC for inviting me to attend the celebration of the 40th national independence day on 9 November and to visit the Kingdom of Cambodia.

The Cambodian people are celebrating their 40th national independence day at a time when the country is basking in peace and engaging in the process of national reconciliation, rehabilitation, and reconstruction. The Cambodian people valiantly struggled for national independence, sovereignty, and prosperity during the past 40 years. Remarkably, the adoption of the new constitution has resulted in the creation of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the formation of the RGC with the full support of the people to lead Cambodia toward development and good fortune.

We would like to express high appreciation for the RGC, which is working under the royal guidance of His Majesty [H.M.] King of Cambodia Norodom Sihanouk to build a new independent, nonaligned, and developed Cambodia. Now as in the past, the Korean people continue to accord unreserved support to the Cambodian people.

Respected Cambodian friends, under the leadership of great leaders Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il, the Korean people are striving to build socialism and achieve peace within the limits of their territorial integrity. On this occasion, I would like to express profound thanks to the RGC for supporting the policy of reunifying the two Koreas and transforming the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone.

In the future, we will continue to strive to further strengthen and expand the relations of solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between Cambodia and Korea in the interests of our respective countries and in contribution to building a peaceful, free, and developed Asian community.

To help further tighten our bilateral relations, I propose that your highnesses and excellencies toast to the health and longevity of H.M. King Norodom Sihanouk Varaman, to the health of the great Korean leaders Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il, to Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh, to His Excellency Hun Sen, to all excellencies, and to the Korean and Cambodian peoples.

Sihanouk Confers 'Samdech' Title on Chea Sim BK0911122393 Phnom Penh AKP in English 1030 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Phnom Penh AKP November 9—His Majesty King of Cambodia Norodom Sihanouk has nominated National Assembly Chairman Chea Sim "Samdech" of Cambodia.

In a decree of nomination on November 9, 1993, King Sihanouk said "His Excellency Chea Sim and the Cambodian People's Party (CPP) had made a great and wise contribution to the supreme aspiration of the entire Cambodian people and brought a perfect justice to the throne, thus raising the Cambodian motherland to its former status as the Kingdom of Cambodia".

The CPP under the eminent leadership of Samdech Chea Sim has overcome many obstacles, in the spirit of high patriotism, to achieve the common success for the Cambodians, that is, the national unity and independence and the progressive liberal democracy for Cambodia, by accepting the Sangkum Reas Niyum (former Popular Society Party formed by King Norodom Sihanouk) as the brother and the modality in the national construction and defence, the king said.

King Sihanouk also praised Samdech Chea Sim for his courageous leadership and loyalty to the movement of

patriotism, nationalism and religion, by restoring the two Buddhist sects as the national religion.

The Cambodian king appreciated Samdech Chea Sim's firm support to the policy of national reconciliation initiated by King Sihanouk himself for the Cambodian nation.

Chea Sim Addresses National Day Parade
BK0911120593 Phnom Penh National Voice of
Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 0030 GMT
9 Nov 93

[Speech by Chea Sim, chairman of the National Assembly and acting head of state of the Kingdom of Cambodia, at 9 November Phnom Penh parade celebrating the nation's 40th independence day: live]

[Text] My respects to all venerable Buddhist monks; my respects to His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh, first prime minister, and Princess Marie Ranariddh; my respects to His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, second prime minister, and madame; my respects to H.E. Kang Song-san, premier of the State Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea [DPRK], and his delegation; my respects to the high-ranking military delegation of the Republic of Indonesia; my respects to all esteemed excellencies, ladies, and gentlemen, the eminent foreign guests, princes, excellencies, madames, ladies, gentlemen, and beloved compatriots: Today is a historic day permeated with an extremely solemn and joyous atmosphere marked by the greatest national pride, a day on which the parliament and the royal government together with our people throughout the country under the august leadership of His Majesty [H.M.] King Norodom Sihanouk Varaman of the Kingdom of Cambodia organize this festival to celebrate the nation's glorious 40th 9 November independence day.

On this very auspicious occasion, our Kingdom of Cambodia is very honored to welcome its eminent guests of honor, namely, the high-level delegation of the DPRK headed by H.E. Kang Song-san, premier of the State Administration Council; and the high-ranking military delegation of the Republic of Indonesia, which on behalf of the Korean and Indonesian nations and peoples are conveying their warmest salutations and most sincere best greetings to our Cambodian nation and people.

Last week, we were also honored to welcome the highlevel delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic headed by H.E. Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon, who also extended warmest best greetings to our nation and people on our nazional day.

At the same time, we feel extremely grateful that statesmen and high-ranking personalities of countries near and far that are friendly to us have sent us warm letters and telegrams of greeting together with assurances of firm support given to our nation at this new juncture. All of this has enabled our country's celebration of its

40th independence day to be even more solemn and to bear an immense political significance. In particular, the very meaningful august message that H.M. King Norodom Sihanouk Varaman, our venerated monarch, has graciously sent to his subjects throughout the kingdom on the occasion of this festival further reminds the entire Cambodian nation of his monumental service and triumphant exploits as the father of national independence and as an incomparably gifted architect of the royal crusade to win national independence for the Angkorian motherland.

The day 9 November was inscribed in the golden page of the brilliant history of our Cambodian nation when it ushered in a new era in which our beloved Angkorian motherland and people were emancipated from the yoke of foreign domination forcibly imposed on them for almost one whole century. It was a new epoch of national pride that saw the people enjoying genuine rights and liberties, once again recovering their honor and dignity in their capacity as the masters of the country's destiny and as masters of their own future; it inaugurated the era of liberal democracy in Cambodia.

On 8 November 1949, France legally handed over independence to our Cambodian people. However, this independence did not go into real effect as it was not total independence. There was no sovereignty over the judiciary, police, military command, diplomacy, and the exchange and printing of paper money for it to become a total independence.

Because of these reasons, H.M. Norodom Sihanouk Varaman, great king and enlightened leader of the Cambodian nation, expended his physical efforts, his invaluable sagacity, and his peerless genius to conduct the royal crusade for national emancipation in 1952-53. His fervent activities both at home and on the international stage exemplified the great self-abnegation and lofty patriotism of a venerated king. All Cambodians-monks and laymen, young and old, men and women alikewholeheartedly and enthusiastically responded to the call and rose up as a single body to wage a valiant struggle to fight and overcome difficulties and take part in the "Live Force" and "Brave Women" movements throughout the country in order to follow the precious patriotic leadership of H.M. the King in his crusade to win independence for the nation. The united forces of our people under the motto "Religion and King" with H.M. King Norodom Sihanouk Varaman as the glorious helmsman then became an inexhaustible source, an invincible and powerful current forcing the French Government to unconditionally surrender total independence to the Cambodian people in 1953.

The indignity and affront suffered by the Cambodian nation under foreign domination came to an end. The national soul and excellent civilization of their ancestors as well as their rightful national honor were restored to allow them to carry on the glorious achievements of their Angkorian forefathers.

As of the day it won independence on the basis of the great national union, unity, and fraternity and with our people collectively following the leadership of H.M. the king, our greatest statesman, our Angkorian motherland experienced rapid development in all fields under Sangkum Reas Niyum [Sihanouk's pre-1970 ruling party] and enjoyed a good standing and great acclaim on all five continents. It was known to all as an oasis of peace and played an important role in the international arena, especially in the nonaligned movement. This was the acme of glory restored to our land after it had plunged to the lowest level in a period which stretched from the post-Angkorian period to the mid-20th century.

Prince Krompreah, princes, excellencies, madames, ladies, gentlemen, and beloved and esteemed compatriots: The 40th anniversary of the 9 November independence day that we are most solemnly and joyously celebrating today bears a far-reaching and most profound significance because it is bringing back everything that symbolizes human rights and liberties, everything that represents the unalterable honor of our people who are in need of their national identity, sovereignty, territorial integrity, national soul, glorious civilization, and right to self-determination. At the same time, the anniversary of our national independence also affirms the immortal value of the sacred force of our nation's unity forged among various political parties, Armed Forcesincluding the Army, police, Live Force units, and Brave Women units—and among the civilians—monks and laymen, men and women, old and young alike-who are rallying around the throne and our venerated king. This constitutes the great national force which possesses a marvelous potential and great powers capable of surmounting all kinds of difficulty and obstacles and personifies the factor that determines the victory, the perpetuality, and the defense and development of our glorious Angkorian motherland.

History has clearly shown us that only the force of great union under the wise and enlightened leadership of H.M. King Norodom Sihanouk Varaman, father of the nation and great statesman, can solve our nation's vital problems and can unite our nation into a single body advancing toward development and prosperity.

Another of the king's wonderful and shining exploits that cannot be overlooked is the fact that the Kingdom of Cambodia left the Geneva conference in 1954 without damage; that is, without enduring the misfortune of territorial division. The royal crusade for national emancipation that H.M. the king conducted until total success was the most invaluable historic mission that no one can ignore. It became the source of immortal and glorious lessons and experiences for our nation.

In his message to his countrymen on the nation's 40th 9 November independence day, H.M. King Norodom sihanouk Varaman said that waging an armed struggle for national liberation is a great service and honor but winning total national independence for the motherland through peaceful means is even better; and if you can

mix freedom and peace together, then it is perfect as it also conforms with the teaching of Lord Buddha.

In line with the trend of the time and on the basis of considering the interests of the nation and people superior to all else, the signing of the Paris peace accord on 23 October 1991 opened up a new era that led to the end of fighting in Cambodia and also to the UN-supervised general elections of May 1993. It was because the entire Cambodian nation unanimously agreed to follow the ideas and instructions of H.M. the king, father of national reunification and democracy, that our new Constitution, new parliament, and new royal government headed by HRH Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh, first prime minister, and H.E. Hun Sen, second prime minister, could be born in conformity with the aspiration and request of the people and the prevailing situation in our country. Last October a shrewd, active, and responsible political program of the royal government and the royal government's composition were adopted by our parliament. And the royal government is making every effort to transform that political program into concrete actions in service of the superior interests of our nation and people at this new juncture.

The coalition between the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia [FUNCINPEC] Party, the Cambodian People's Party, the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party, the MOLINAKA [Cambodian National Liberation Movement] Party, and other parties at H.M. the king's suggestion made on the basis of the spirit of patriotism, love of peace, respect for human rights, and adherence to multiparty liberal democracy and in accordance with the Constitution—the supreme law of the state—has created a dynamic driving force working in favor of national unification and bringing about peace, happiness, and progress for our nation. It also constitutes a factor that helps disperse the gloomy dark clouds covering our motherland during the past two decades and more. All this has been made possible thanks to the sincere and resolutely patriotic contribution of our monks, officials, civil servants, workers, employees, intellectuals, students, ethnic minority members, and people throughout the country whom today, on behalf of the parliament and royal Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia and in my own name. I would like to thank most profoundly for their noble, invaluable, and sincere sacrifices.

At the same time, I would like to express most profound thanks to the United Nations, the international community, and friendly countries near and far which have actively assisted and continue to actively assist the peace process, the national reconciliation process, and the rehabilitation and reconstruction process in Cambodia. Their precious services will be inscribed forever in the heart of every Cambodian of both the present generation and future generations.

Prince Krompreah, princes, excellencies, madames, ladies, gentlemen, and beloved and esteemed compatriots: The well-executed and energetic parade performed by the Khmer Royal Armed Forces and the masses to celebrate the nation's 40th 9 November independence day on this occasion even more clearly shows the revival of the soul of national union and unity as well as the national pride and strong determination of our people to follow in the footsteps of our venerated king. They also mark their firm support for the royal government which is responsibly discharging a very important and weighty mission.

Now more than ever, the awareness of the importance of respecting the king, worshipping Buddhism, loving the nation, and treasuring the motherland's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity is being heightened and transformed into a nationwide seething and resolute movement to build and defend the country. New Cambodia will always firmly pursue the policy of permanent neutrality and nonalignment and will always peacefully coexist with its neighbors and other countries in the world. It is most true that many obstacles and difficulties are lying ahead waiting for our nation. Among them are three major problems that H.M. the king has graciously noted in his message to our compatriots on the 40th anniversary of the 9 November national independence day: namely, the problem of the Khmer Rouge who stubbornly continue to resort to military adventures and refuse to join the national community; the problem of respect for Cambod's's territorial integrity which existed between 1963 and 1969; and the problem of quickly eliminating the poverty of our people, which is the joint responsibility of our parliament, royal government, and people.

Nevertheless, despite all these problems, our nation is optimistically confident that under the protection and grace of H.M. Norodom Sihanouk Varaman, our venerated king; and with HRH Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh, first prime minister; and H.E. Hun Sen, second prime minister, as the leaders, our beloved Angkorian motherland and people will surely achieve peace and prosperity in the not too distant future.

In conclusion, I would like to wish HM Norodom Sihanouk Varaman, our venerated king; and Queen Norodom Monineat Sihanouk long life and good health to remain the happy shade protecting our people forever. I also wish HRH Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh and Princess Marie Ranariddh; H.E. Hun Sen and Madame; their excellencies and madames, the eminent guests of honor of the Cambodian nation and people; and princes, excellencies, madames, ladies, gentlemen, and compatriots the five Buddhist blessings. Thank you.

Chea Sim Addresses National Day Reception

BK1011092993 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 10 Nov 93

(Speech by Chea Sim, chairman of the National Assembly and acting herd of state of the Kingdom of

Cambodia, at 9 November Phnom Penh banquet marking the 40th National Independence Day—recorded]

[Text] My respects to Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh, first prime minister, and Princess Norodom Marie Ranariddh; my respects to His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, second prime minister, and madame; my respects to their highnesses members of the royal family; my respects to H.E. Kang Song-san, premier of the State Administration Council of the DPRK, and delegation; my respects to the high-ranking military delegation of the Republic of Indonesia; my respects to all beloved excellencies, ladies, and gentlemen, the eminent foreign guests.

Beloved excellencies, madames, ladies, and gentlemen: In this extremely joyous atmosphere permeated with great national pride, the celebration of the 40th anniversary of National Independence Day, reflecting the marvelous potential of the entire Cambodian nation through this morning's active parade, has awakened the consciousness of every Cambodian son and daughter to recall the past and glorious history of their Angkorian motherland, thus building up optimism and firm confidence in the brilliant future of their country.

The celebration of our National Independence Day, the anniversary of our independence from France in 1953, is an excellent occasion for our entire Cambodian nation to express its extremely deep gratitude to His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk Varaman, the great king, father of national independence, great statesman, and great leader, who has sacrificed everything to salvage the Cambodian nation and people and preserve our entity among countries across the world.

It is very lucky for our nation to have a king who has fulfilled the entire 10-point principle of kingship and who has great talent in rallying the great national union, unity, reunification, and national fraternity to defend the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and national spirit, and to rebuild the nation and bring back prosperity and happiness. Before and from now on [passage indistinct].

The day of 9 November shows the world that the Cambodian race has not vanished despite all the obstacles, difficulties, and dangers of all types it experienced through the bitter twists and turns in its history for more than two dark decades. On the contrary, activated by their pure patriotism and political maturity, the Cambodian citizens are jointly following in the footsteps of His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk Varaman, the famous king and father of national reconciliation, so as to bring life, honor, dignity, independence, liberal democracy, and respects for human rights under a modern constitution back to Cambodia.

The awareness of the need for national reconciliation, national pride, the resolve of the patriotic Cambodian people as our nation used to display during the Angkotian period, and the royal crusade which won total

independence for Cambodia in 1952-53 are ushering in a new era for the entire Cambodian nation, an era to put a permanent end to discord, misery, suffering, separation, gunfire, bloodshed, and our nation's famine and disgrace. It is the era of national restoration and reconstruction under the sole legal royal government led by Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh, first prime minister, and H.E. Hun Sen, second prime minister.

Esteemed and beloved Prince Krompreah, princes, princesses, excellencies, madames, ladies, and gentlemen, the nation's 1993 National Independence Day is an opportunity for the Cambodian nation to express its national pride as well as an excellent occasion for the Cambodian people to reaffirm the revival of the splendid Angkorian civilization, revered Buddhism, and fine national culture following the monarchy which used to be very prosperous [words indistinct] in Southeast Asia and used to be named an oasis of peace during the Sangkum Reas Niyum era.

On this joyous occasion, the entire Cambodian nation would like to express deep gratitude to the United Nations, international community, friendly countries near and far, and peoples across the world who have given and are giving their honest and active suport and assistance to the peace process, national reconciliation, and reconstruction of Cambodia.

Particularly, the entire Cambodian nation and people would like to express deep gratitude for the honorable presence on this National Independence Day of the high-ranking DPRK delegation led by H.E. Kang Songsan, premier of the State Administration Council, and the high-ranking military delegation of Indonesia, as well as all excellencies, madames, and gentlemen who are representatives of the diplomatic mission, and esteemed and beloved foreign guests. This has reflected your close bond of friendship and solidarity with the Cambodian nation and people.

Under a firm and resolute pledge to rally national union and unity around His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk, revered king and clear-sighted great leader, the Cambodian nation and people will move forward toward progress and prosperity with their independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity by always adhering to the policy of permanent neutrality and nonalignedment and peaceful coexistence with the neighboring and other countries across the world.

With firm confidence full of optimism in our glorious future, I would like to invite all eminent guests of honor to raise your glasses and make a toast: To the good health of His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk Varaman, revered king, and Her Majesty Queen Norodom Monineat Sihanouk; to the progress and prosperity of the Cambodian nation and people; to the good health of H.E. Kang Song-san, premier of the State Administration Council of the DPRK, and the high-ranking military delegation of the Republic of Indonesia, which are eminent guests of the Cambodian nation and people

during this 40th anniversary of the glorious 9 November National Independence Day; to the good health of Prince Krompreah, princes, princesses, and members of the royal family; and to the good health of excellencies, madames, ladies, and gentlemen. Thank you.

Khmer Rouge Attacks Reported on Thai Border
BK1011054393 Phnom Penh AKP in French 0435 GMT
10 Nov 93

[All coordinates as received]

[Text] Phnom Penh 10 Nov (AKP)—According to a military source, the Khmer Rouge has launched attacks against some areas in the Cambodian-Thai border provinces.

On 29 October, in Preah Vihear Province, about 100 Khmer Rouge soldiers backed by artillery attacked a position of the Khmer Royal Armed Forces (FARK) at coordinates (71.916) and (71.957), east of the Choam Khsan district seat.

At 1930 the same day, 75 other guerrillas fired at the villages of Cha, Ph'av, and Anlung Veng of Kantuot commune, burning 250 houses and 50 metric tons of rice.

On 1 November, at 1500, about 100 Khmer Rouge guerrillas attacked the district seat of Chey Sen, Preah Vihear Province.

On 28 October, in Siem Reap Province, the Khmer Rouge launched attacks against government positions at coordinates (78.60), (89.58), and (64.57), northeast of Samraong and Ph'aong and east of Bak Nim township. The three and a half hour attack forced the government troops to temporarily pull out of their first two positions.

PDK Sends National Day Message to Sihanouk

BK1011022193 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Message from Khieu Samphan, head of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea, to King Norodom Sihanouk on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of Cambodian independence; dated 8 November]

[Text] With respect to His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk Varaman, king of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Your Majesty: On behalf of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK], I beg for your permission to express our great elation and join your majesty and the queen, as well as our entire nation and people, in marking the 40th anniversary of the day we seized full independence for our motherland from the French colonialists, which was Your Majesty's magnificent feat of arms in leading the 1952-53 royal crusade.

The celebration of this historic day, 9 November—as Your Majesty said in your 3! October message to the nation and people—prompts our Cambodian nation and people to realize that the unification of all Cambodians—male, female, young and old alike, all political parties, and all Army units—around the throne and the king will enable us to overcome all obstacles, big and small. More importantly, it makes our nation and people even more confident in the heavenly medicine that your majesty has discovered and used very effectively; that is, national reconciliation, national unity, national conscience and pride, and the determination to accomplish the sacred national reconciliation. This is the most effective way to cure our nation's serious ailment.

On this auspicious occasion, we would like to extend once again, with great respect for your majesty, best wishes for better health and a quick recovery so that you will remain an august and great leader, upholding the banner of national salvation and leading the entire Cambodian nation and people to accomplish the policy of national reconciliation, national unity, and the unification of all national forces in the entire Kingdom of Cambodia.

Also on this occasion, we would like to extend best wishes to her majesty the queen.

Please forgive any inappropriateness.

[Dated] 8 November 1993 [Signed] Khieu Samphan, head of the PDK

Khmer Rouge Denies Kitting Siem Reap Monks

BK0711020893 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 6 Nov 93

("Denial" by the spokesman of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea; 4 November, place not given read by announcer)

[Text] 1. The National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] was again accused on 3 November of killing the abbot of the Preah Ang Thom Monastery in Svay Leu District of Siem Reap Province and arresting and torturing four other Buddhist monks.

The NADK spokesman categorically rejects the allegation endowed with a most unscrupulous political motive.

2. According to the local people, the truth is that the state authorities of the puppet army in the district arrested and killed the abbot on 29 October 1993, and they took away three other Buddhist monks. They did so on the suspicion that the Buddhist monks at the monastery had been involved with the national resistance forces of Democratic Kampuchea and they did so for the purpose of showing off their might and to intimidate the local people.

The policy of a monkey applying leftovers on the muzzle of a goat already has been employed repeatedly by the

communist Vietnamese; the Cambodian people have seen through their nature. Those believing the report fudged by the communist Vietnamese-installed state power are all epileptics. [sentence as heard]

3. At the present time, when the communist Vietnamese and their state power and the alliance are preparing to launch the dry-season offensive against the people and the PDK, maneuvers of this kind will be further employed without shame since it is a part of their political and psychological war and propaganda to mislead national and international opinions.

[Dated] 4 November 1993 [Signed] NADK spokesman

Khmer Rouge Questions Motives of Lao Premier

BK0711040293 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Lao Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon arrived in Cambodia on 4 November 1993 for a four-day visit. Phnom Penh-based diplomats and observers of the Cambodian problem wonder whether the visit to Cambodia by the Lao prime minister has anything to do with the recent visit to Laos by Vietnamese President Le Duc Anh.

The general public still remembers that Le Duc Anh used to be the commander of the Vietnamese forces which invaded Cambodia for over 13 years. When the forces mounted the 1985-1986 dry-season offensive with the aim of smashing the national Cambodian resistance forces in pieces and closing Cambodia's western border, Le Duc Anh wrote an article published by the Vietnamese Army paper saying the organization of the three people's parties and countries, including Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, into a unique people and country is a law to guarantee the survival of the three peoples and countries.

A reliable source says although Le Duc Anh has an open function as the communist Vietnamese president, he always remains in charge of the important task of leading a special commission on Cambodia and implementing the strategy of completely swallowing the Cambodian race through human war and consolidation and expansion of the state power they have installed since 1979.

During his visit to Laos early this week, Le Duc Anh still recalled and emphasized the special friendship which constitutes a slogan for the Indochinese federation strategy of the communist Vietnamese.

Cambodian watchers wonder whether a treaty to be signed during the Lao prime minister's visit is an agreement that will be concluded by two independent and sovereign governments and countries or within the framework of strengthening and enhancing the comnunist Vietnamese's Indochinese federation strategy in all fields.

Solution to Country's 'Serious Situation' Viewed

BK0911065393 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Editorial: "In Which Way Should the Serious Situation Facing the Cambodian Nation and Society Be Resolved—Through Peaceful Means or Through Continuing to Kindle the War?]

[Text] In his message to the nation and people on 31 October, His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk pointed out that the present situation in Cambodia is very serious. Three problems that need to be settled urgently are:

I. The Khmer Rouge problem.

II. The problem of the territorial integrity and the 1953-69 land and maritime borders that are not respected by some neighboring countries.

III. The problem of rehabilitating and building the economy and people's livelihood, particularly in the agricultural field, as these situations have deteriorated with each passing year.

A. What is the Khmer Rouge problem?

The so-called Khmer Rouge problem is the problem of the Democratic Kampuchean forces. This includes the people's forces, armed forces, economy, and the liberated zone which was liberated from the evil claws of the Vietnamese communists and is being jointly controlled by Democratic Kampuchea [DK] and the people.

To the Cambodian nation and people and the peaceloving peoples and countries in this region, DK forces constitute a very important national force that has played the role of counterbalancing the Vietnamese war of aggression and race extermination for the past over 13 years, militarily, politically, and diplomatically.

Recalling only this much of the facts, one can clearly see what the DK forces comprise. This matter has been unanimously recognized by the nation and people.

The Vietnamese communists sent tens of thousands of troops, armed with all kinds of modern weaponry and supported by the Soviet superpower and the Warsaw Pact, which spent billions of dollars each year, to try to smash DK forces within a single stroke. Did they succeed in their attempt to smash us, or did they find themselves bogged down in a quagmire up to the time that the Soviet Union collapsed?

Later, the Western allies together with the Vietnamese communists made attempts through political and diplomatical means to eliminate the DK through their one-party policy. Have they been able to eliminate us, or have they been exposed and condemned by the Cambodian nation and people?

While implementing the Paris agreement, the Vietnamese communists and the state power that they
installed together with the Western allies have continued
their attempt to eliminate and smash DK forces through
military, political, economic, and diplomatic means.
Have they been able to eliminate and smash us, or have
they been opposed, exposed, and condemned by Cambodian nation and people both inside and outside the
country?

Judging from the outcome of the elections in May alone, one can clearly see that although the forces of the Vietnameso-installed state power had resorted to fascist acts, coercing and threatening to shoot and kill them, still the people voted for the National United Front for an independence, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia [FUNCINPEC]. This is because the people want national reconciliation and DK forces' participation in resolving the national problems.

Why have they failed to eliminate and smash DK forces through the military war in the past over 13 years waged by tens of thousands of Vietnamese communist troops with the support of the Soviet superpower? Why have the DK forces not been eliminated and smashed through military, political, diplomatic, and economic means by the Vietnamese communists, Vietnamese-installed state power, and Western allies under UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia label?

The answer is because the Cambodian nation and people oppose this attempt. Moreover, the Cambodian nation and people are the inexhaustible source of the national forces and DK forces, including manpower and economic and political means. They would not allow this to happen. The Cambodian nation and people have, in the past, supported and joined with DK forces in resisting and preventing Vietnam from annexing Cambodia and, now as well as in the future, they want to and will always support and join hands with the DK in preventing Vietnam from turning present-day Cambodia into the second Kampuchea Kraom.

The Cambodian nation and people clearly see the fatal danger of the Vietnamese communists to Cambodia through the dispatch of their people into our country and through their grabbing of our land. This is an endless, grave danger to the Cambodian race. No matter how hard those allies and some other elements have tried to bury and divert this matter, no Cambodian will allow Cambodia to become a second Kampuchea Kraom.

In such a case, what should be done in order to resolve the problem of Khmer Rouge or DK forces? Should one continue to kindle the flames of war, attacking one's own people and national resistance forces to cause destruction to the nation, thus opening a way for the Vietnamese communists to dispatch more Vietnamese nationals to Vietnamize and turn Cambodia into a second Kampuchea Kraom? Or should there be a meeting and discussion to achieve national reconciliation and rally national

forces to keep Cambodia from being swallowed by the Vietnamese communists? Which path should one take?

B. What is the so-called problem of territorial integrity?

The main point is the problem of land, sea, and continental shelf that the Vietnamese communists are slicing off and annexing in line with the treaties signed between the Vietnamese communists and their puppets and through concrete acts by arranging pure Vietnamese military and police authorities to strengthen and expand those areas.

This is a very serious problem; how do we solve it?

According to past historic experiences, to recapture those territories by just declaring that the treaties signed between the Vietnamese communists and their puppets are null and void is insufficient, especially in the situation when the active forces from top to bottom in the National Assembly, government, Army, and police; and the village, commune, and district authorities are all organized and controlled by Vietnamese forces. Can this problem be resolved when the two-headed government thinks only of joining hands with the Vietnamese communists and the allies in attacking its own people and national resistance forces. Doing this is tantamount to opening ways for the Vietnamese communists to easily annex our Cambodia.

The slogan of the Vietnamese communists is to incite the Cambodian puppets to attack Cambodian patriots so that the Vietnamese communists can tear off Cambodian flesh and blood.

C. What is the problem of restoring and arranging the economy and people's livelihood?

Most of our people, both in the countryside and in cities, are well aware of this problem because they have faced and suffered from it everyday. Our people are short of food and land because they have all been plundered by the Vietnamese communists and the regime that they installed. The people are short of shelters, clothing, and medicines, they are jobless, and they have been bullied by the Vietnamese communists and their puppet regime, such as by recruiting them to fight in their place and to do hard labor [words indistinct].

The people have lost their land, villages, oxen, buffaloes, farm tools, and houses; and have become refugees in their own country, provinces, and districts, roaming about aimlessly like a cloud.

Can this problem be resolved in such a situation when the two-headed government still joins with the Vietnamese communists and allies in kindling the flames of war?

As a matter of fact, even in farming, one must wait until the earth cools down before beginning to plant crops.

D. What is the solution?

To these three major problems, His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk has pointed out the path that we should take, that is, national reconciliation, national unity, and unification of all national forces. The most effective way to realize national reconciliation and unity is constant meetings and discussions in various forms between all Cambodian leaders.

What is the reaction of the Vietnamese communists, the regime that they installed, and their allies to this valuable royal advice?

- 1. They have time and again announced that there absolutely will be no negotiations, no roundtable, nor any discussions.
- 2. They have plundered money—aid to Cambodian people—and used it to buy arms and ammunition from Russia and other countries for continuing the war.
- 3. Hun Sen, Tie Banh, and so forth have repeatedly talked only about attacks and more attacks.

Whom does such action benefit? Does it benefit the Cambodian nation and people or does it lead the Cambodian nation and people toward destruction and extinction while the Vietnamese communists reap the benefits?

Definitely, they are taught to take such (?a principle), such an attitude, by the Vietnamese communists. This is so that while some forces join hands with the allies and Vietnamese-installed state power in attacking the people and national resistance forces, the Vietnamese communists can continue sending their people to annex Cambodia in the form of demographic warfare. This is also in order to make the Cambodians disregard their Vietnamization of Cambodia.

In sum, anyone refusing to resolve the serious problems facing the Cambodian nation and society through negotiations and through peaceful means in line with the advice of the king father will be regarded as opposing the king, the Constitution, and the sacred desire of the Cambodian nation and people and as one who allows the Vietnamese communists to destroy the Cambodian race through various forms, especially through demographic warfare.

Anyone doing this must be held fully responsible for Cambodian history. The Cambodian nation and people cannot condone such a person.

Laos

Report on Activities of Visiting Thai Princess

BK0911134593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] At 1330, Her Royal Highness [HRH] Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon left by motorcade from the government guest house to pay a visit to the cultural training school for the orphanage located at KM-67 marker. There she presented water

tanks to the school administration, unveiled a plaque, and toured a royal project initiated by herself. After that, HRH the princess proceeded to Phonhong District in Vientiane Province to hear a report on activities of the provincial women's union and to observe handicraft products made by union members.

At 1530, HRH the princess visited the Phonhong District Hospital and primary school where she toured many buildings and classrooms. One hour later, she went to the agricultural development center at KM-20 marker in Nasaithong District, which was set up on the initiative of His Majesty King Phumiphon Adunyadet of the Kingdom of Thailand.

At 1830, HRH the princess returned to the government guest house in Vientiane.

HRH the Princess will visit Luang Prabang Province on 10 November to present her private Maha Kathin yellow robes to Buddhist monks.

She will visit Laksao in Khamkeut District, Bolikhamsai Province on 11 November. She will take a helicopter from there to view the Nakai plain in Khammouane Province.

On 13 November, she is scheduled to pay a visit to Thakhek District of Khammouane Province where she will spend the night.

She will return to Thailand by a special Royal Thai Air Force plane on 14 November.

Meets President, Prime Minister

BK0911134793 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] This morning at the Ho Kham Hall, His Excellency [H.E.] Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], received a courtesy call from Her Royal Highness [HRH] Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon of the Kingdom of Thailand. H.E. Nouhak Phoumsavan hailed the visit to the LPDR by HRH the princess, regarding it as a gesture of further strengthening the friendly relations of time-honored good neighborliness between the LPDR and the Kingdom of Thailand. The LPDR president informed the Thai royal visitor about the outcome of our national development and construction in which the socioeconomic development plan has been increasingly implemented with emphasis being placed on setting up allaround key development areas throughout the country.

On the same morning at the government guest house, HRH the princess received H.E. Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister of the LPDR. During the meeting, HRH the princess hailed the warm welcome accorded her by H.E. the prime minister and chatted with him about various issues regarding relations and cooperation between the two countries in the immediate future and on a long-term basis. She expressed satisfaction with the

further development of traditional friendly relations of good neighborliness and brotherliness between the two countries.

At 1940, H.E. Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon hosted a dinner banquet in honor of HRH the princess at the National Assembly in Vientiane capital.

Prime Minister Hosts Dinner

BK1011051193 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Yesterday evening, at the National Assembly hall in the capital of Vientiane, His Excellency [H.E.] Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], held a dinner in honor of Her Royal Highness [HRH] Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon of the Kingdom of Thailand, currently on a private visit to Laos. The dinner was attended by many distinguished guests on both the Lao and Thai sides.

At the glorious dinner, H.E. Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon delivered a speech welcoming the visit by HRH the Thai princess. He said: We are delighted to have the honor of welcoming HRH Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon's private visit to present yellow robes to Buddhist monks. We consider the visit as contributing to the enhancement of neighborly relations and fraternal friendship between Laos and Thailand. The visit has further strengthened the relationsip between our two countries' leaders.

H.E. Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon invited the distinguished guests to drink a toast to the good health and long life of HRH Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon.

As reported earlier, HRH the Thai princess arrived in Vientiane yesterday morning on a six-day private visit to the LPDR at the invitation of H.E. Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon.

Hanoi Municipal Delegation Ends Visit, Departs

BK1011122793 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] A high-level delegation of the Hanoi capital party and administrative committees led by Pham The Duyet, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the Hanoi party committee, left Vientiane this morning after a six-day official friendship visit. Before its departure, on the evening of 8 November, Boun-gnang Volachit [governor of Vientiane municipality] and Pham The Duyet in a ceremony held at Lan Xang hotel, signed a memorandum on the outcome of the high-level Hanoi delegation friendship and working visit to Vientiane. The signing ceremony was held in the presence of members of the delegations of the Vientiane and Hanoi party and administrative committees and a number of high-ranking cadres concerned.

During its stay in Vientiane, the high-level Hanoi delegation was given a warm welcome of close friendship, comradeship, and fraternity by Boun-gnang Volachit and his delegation. The Hanoi delegation also visited some economic places, factories or plants, cultural establishments, and various places of historic significance in Vientiane capital. It met and exchanged experiences with the high-level delegation of the Vientiane party and administrative committees led by Boun-gnang Volachit. At the meeting, they informed each other of their achievements in implementing the renovation policy in their respective capitals, in particular in the economic, cultural, and social fields, and the work which has been progressively developed on the basis of the party line and policy of each country. The two sides also discussed the directions for future cooperation between the two capitals on the principles of mutual benefit and the strengthening of the long-standing special solidarity, friendship, and all-around cooperation between the two capitals as well as Laos and Vietnam.

Education Minister Returns From Vietnam Visit

BK1011094593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] A Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] Education Ministry delegation led by Education Minister Phimmason returned to Vientiane from Vietnam on 5 November. The delegation left for the SRV for a friendship visit on 26 October. During the visit, our Lao education delegation was accorded a warm welcome by the Vietnamese education minister. It signed an agreement on a cooperation plan for 1994 and another on the training of cadres in the SRV.

The delegation also paid a courtesy call on Phan Van Khai, deputy prime minister of the SRV, visited the teachers training college and chatted with Lao students in Nghia Binh Province, visited the ethnic minority boarding school, and a number of industrial establishments. In addition, while in Ho Chi Minh City, the delegation held a meeting with a delegation of the Agriculture and Forestry College and the Polytechnic Training College.

Khamsai Souphanouvong Report: 1st Installment BK0911151593 Vientiane PASASON in Lao 19 Oct 93 p 3

[First installment of "report" by Finance Minister Khamsai Souphanouvong to the Second Ordinary Session of the Third National Assembly convened in Vientiane from 27 September to 8 October 1993, entitled: "The Implementation of the 1992-93 State Budget and the Draft 1993-94 State Budget"—date not given]

[Text] Respected Presidium of the session,

Respected honored guests from inside and outside the country,

Respected members of the National Assembly:

I feel highly honored to present a report to the National Assembly on the implementation of the 1992-93 state budget and the draft 1993-94 budget plan for consideration and endorsement.

Part I. The Status of the Economy and Finances in 1993 and the Implementation of the 1992-93 Budget

In this part, I would like to present an overall report on the status of our economy and finances in 1993; certain tasks, which have been fulfilled, and some remaining tasks; and the outcome of the implementation of the 1992-93 budget.

I. The Status of the 1992-93 Economy and Finances

The entire party, state, and people have continued the comprehensive implementation of the government's policy on restructuring and have strived to score achievements. This made 1993 the fourth year in which our national economy has been consistently and continually developed and our financial stability has been maintained.

The rate of development of our economy, with stable prices, will be between 7 and 6 percent according to initial predictions and assuming a continued favorable climate when compared to the previous year. Of this rate, agricultural production is expected to increase by 8.3 percent, industrial by 9.1 percent, and services by 5.6 percent. This tempo of development is also expected to continue in the 1993-95 period.

Another objective set fourth by the government is to maintain the rate of inflation under control at an average of 6 percent per year to guarantee the buying power of the kip and to gradually raise the living standard of our multiethnic people. The inflation rate is expected to be between 6 and 7 percent by the end of 1993. The prices of polished glutinous rice, meat, and fish remained unchanged in the first six months of this year. At the inaugural session of the National Assembly convened in February 1993, the government pledged that it would keep the rate of inflation to less than 10 percent.

According to initial statistics, the trade imbalance of our country is much better this year than in previous years. This year, exports and foreign investment in our country increased much more this year when compared to the previous year. Earnings in foreign currencies by banks also increased, thus enabling our overall national economy to absorb more foreign currencies than in previous years. This phenomenon clearly shows that both local and foreign investors are very confident in our government's economic line and the stability of our national finances.

Our state's foreign reserve increased from U.S.\$33 million in late 1992 to U.S.\$73 million in August this year. It is predicted that this figure will increase to approximately U.S.\$75 million, thus enabling the nation to

guarantee imports for at least three months. As a result, the exchange rate between the kip and the dollar still remains 720 to 1 as it has been since 1990.

The above-mentioned macroeconomic figures are the indicators confirming that the government's new economic policy has effectively been implemented both in the country and in our cooperation with foreign countries. All this has created more favorable conditions for our economic operations and our people's livelihood in the entire country as well as for the implementation of the state's budget.

II. The Tasks Fulfilled and the Remaining Tasks

The fundamental objective of our finances in the 1992-93 budget plan, which was presented to the National Assembly, was aimed at reducing the budget imbalance by increasing internal revenue and redirecting budget expenditures.

1. Policies To Increase Budget Revenue

To increase revenue for the budget, the government informed the National Assembly that it would adopt certain new policies and readjust some existing ones, such as the policy to collect land taxes instead of agricultural taxes, a policy to register various documents, a policy to determine the lowest rate of taxes on profits, and a policy to readjust the rate of import duties to be more justified than before.

All these policies were implemented by the government between January and June this year. The Finance Ministry has coordinated with local administrations to implement these policies. So far, however, the amount of revenue collected has not yet met the initial set target. But these policies will become a basis for mobilizing revenue in the coming year.

2. The Solution of Delayed Payment of Salzries and Ambiguous Debts

With regard to certain problems that remained unresolved for several years, such as the delayed payment of salaries and ambiguous debts, the government would like to reaffirm that they have now been resolved throughout the country. Other types of ambiguous debts will also be settled in the form of regular monthly payments within each particular month.

At the instruction of the Prime Minister's Office on the solution of the salary payment problems, the Finance Ministry has appointed a ministerial committee to disburse the ministerial budget. With the cooperation of the provincial financial services, the committee will pay salaries to state employees for 1993 and those pensions to pensioners delayed since before 1992 in some provinces and districts. This will ensure that the overdue salaries actually are paid to state employees in person.

The Finance Ministry has already printed salary reimbursement cards to be distributed to all state employees as official documents to record the payment and withdrawal of their salaries.

To resolve the problem of ambiguous debts, the national treasury has encouraged all companies receiving budget money from the government to open their own deposit accounts with the treasury and to use the treasury's checks in carrying out transactions among themselves. The opening of this deposit accounts for companies operating under the budget system set up by the treasury constitutes an important step in resolving the payment of debts between the state and business finance systems as well as a fundamental factor for consolidating and strengthening state finances.

Philippines

President Delivers Speech on Depature for U.S.

BK1011054193 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in English 0216 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Speech by President Fidel Ramos prior to his departure for the United States at Ninoy Aquino International Airport in Manila: live; passages in boldface were spoken in Tagalog]

[Text] Vice President Joseph Estrada, former President and Mrs. Diosdado Macapagal, former President Corazon Aquino, Speaker Jose de Venecia, the distinguished members of the Senate and of the House of Representatives, Your Excellencies of the diplomatic corps, coworkers in government, my beloved countrymen.

On the invitation of President Bill Clinton, Mrs. Ramos and I, together with the small official party, leave today on a working visit to the United States. Our delegation will include later on the Senate president, the speaker of the House of Representatives, and senior members of Congress, as well as the more than 100 leaders and representatives of our commercial, financial and industrial communities. My party and I shall be visiting eight key U.S. cities during our 14-day stay.

Over that time, I have set myself four equally important tasks: first, with 13 other heads of state in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation or APEC to consult on the problems and prospects of the Asia-Pacific region in the post-cold war world; second, with President Bill Clinton to chart a fresh beginning in the Philippine-American relations, one that looks beyond the outmoded special relations to straightforward strategic and economic considerations particularly trade, industry and investment. Third, to bring the message to the leaders of American industry in New York, Chicago, Atlanta, Houston, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle that the Philippines is back in business at the heart of the world's fastest growing region and to stimulate the renewed interest in our country; and fourth to encourage Filipino-Americans, who are already America's largest ethnic Asian community, to enhance their economic, social and cultural ties with their mother country—the Philippines.

On President Clinton's initiative the APEC leaders will be meeting in Seattle, Washington on 19 and 20 November to consider ways to expand economic exchanges, deepen regional interdependence, and maintain a more open style of regional cooperation. Trade across the Pacific Ocean is already much larger than that across the North Atlantic. By the year 2000, the Asia-Pacific region should account for just about half of global commerce. Over the next several decades into the socalled Asia-Pacific century, the countries of the Pacific basin are likely to become the driving force in the world economy. The APEC countries make up our most vital outside linkages. They are our largest export markets, our biggest source of foreign investments and tourists and our principal partners in economic and development cooperation. In Seattle, we shall consult informally on how to preserve and enhance an open and integrated global trading system against the background of a dangerous deadlock in the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trades or GATT. I have also scheduled bilateral dialogues with some of the heads of government to establish rapport or renew personal friendships.

From the APEC summit, I shall be going on to Washington D.C. for a one-on-one meeting with President Clinton. Epochal changes in the world and in our two-way relationship have brought the Philippines and the United States to a new chapter in their long association. Our security no longer needs the stationing of American forces on Philippine soil, our ties of trade and investment have been largely incorporated into the regional and global economies, and yet our relationships continue to rest on the same enduring foundation of democratic principles. The United States continues to be our leading export market. American enterprises still have a large stake in our economy, and our two countries still share a strong commitment to liberal democracy, human rights, and individual enterprise.

Our government agrees with most of our neighbors that America's continuing security umbrella in Asia and the Pacific region bolsters its peace and its political stability which the United States itself considers as critical to its own security interests. Like the rest of Asia, we have a stake in a healthy and competitive American economy which encourages an outgoing United States to champion free multilateral trade, and we will continue to need American technology along with the specialized services of its educational research and financial institutions. For all these reasons, we need to place our two-way relationship on a sound new basis and to chart its future course in this new era that our world is entering.

While in Washington I shall also meet Vice President Gore and the members of President Clinton's cabinet concerned with foreign relations and economic affairs. Also key leaders in Congress, the president of the World Bank, and the managing director of the International Monetary Fund.

In New York, I shall meet with Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali of the United Nations.

To the American private sector I shall bring a simple and clear message: that the Philippines is back in business in the center of Asia and the Pacific, that we have enhanced our political stability and strengthened our representative institutions. We are opening up our economy, leveling the playing field of business enterprise, and enlarging the participation of foreign investors, bankers, traders and industrialists. My meetings with the leaders of some of the largest and best known American corporations encompass a broad range of sectors—energy and oil, and gas exploration; electronics and computers software; textiles and clothing; banking and finance; heavy machinery; telecommunications and delivery services. I will tell them that being at the geographic center of the Asia-Pacific region, our Philippine archipelago is strategically located for American industries that would tap the region's consumer market of more than I billion people. I shall also be addressing various U.S. audiences of influence in the nation and in their communities, and I will be speaking to editors, journalists, and leading commentators from America's mass media.

I shall meet with Filipino communities in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago, New York, Atlanta, Houston, Seattle, and Washington D.C. and their environs. Since 1990, Filipinos have been America's largest ethnic Asian people, and by the year 2000 they would reach well over 2 million. But because they are fragmented, there are over 3,000 Filipino-American organizations throughout the United States. They have not so far projected a political and economic visibility proportionate to their number. I have no doubt that their desired visibility will come as Gloria Ochua, who was the Democratic Party candidate for Congress in Santa Barbara County, California, observed, and I quote: Filipino-Americans have become a powerful group without their realizing it. They form the backbone of America's health-care system, they teach America's children, they are scientists and researchers in the universities, they are artists and musicians of note, they are protectors of civil rights, they are historians, and writers but they are the last to be their own advocates, unquote.

To sum these all up, what I shall strive to accomplish in the United States are: to establish clearly in the minds of key Asia-Pacific and U.S. decision-makers and opinion leaders that the Philippines is once again a functioning democracy; to forge a fresh relationship between the Philippines and the United States based not only on historical ties and shared democratic goals but also on our mutual interests in a new Pacific economic community; to inform the American business, financial and investor communities that we are completing a dramatic return to a free market economy and that are once again a lynchpin of the fastest growing region in the world; to

persuade investors, industrialists, traders, tourists and countrymen to visit the Philippines for a new look.

I intend to leave with the American people and brother Asian leaders a better image of our beloved Philippines, that of a nation no longer divided, no longer unpredictable, as a national economy no longer stagnant and in disarray but the image of a people united and determined to move forward under a resolute and democratic leadership.

Our visit to the United States has a crucial and difficult agenda. For its success, I ask your good wishes, and your prayers, and with God's blessings and your support my dear countrymen we will accomplish this mission, and so until we meet again two weeks from now, we bid you all long life.

Article Previews Visit

BK1011070593 Manila THE SUNDAY CHRONICLE in English 7 Nov 93 p 1

[Article by Alan C. Robles]

[Text] There will be no treaties, agreements or aid packages. But there'll be lots of history when Fidel Ramos starts off for the United States next week. For the first time, a Philippine president is coming to Washington D.C. not as a glorified bases warden, or as a pampered dictator, or as a sainted revolutionary. Ramos is arriving as just another entry in Bill Clinton's appointment book.

Previous presidents visited the United States to lavish and profuse affirmations of the warm ties binding the two nations. Ramos is coming to see just exactly what sort of ties exist.

Even the terminology is significant. This is not a state it's a "working" visit. The two-in-one trip will see Ramos criss-crossing the United States not only to see Clinton, but also to attend the grand meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) in Seattle. Studding his 14-day tour are meetings with businessmen. Trade Undersecretary Tomas Alcantara says that 41 percent of the president's activities will be given over to business.

And there will be other firsts: Ramos will pay more attention to the Filipino community in the United States than his predecessors did. He is also expected to give special emphasis to the role of overseas contract workers.

Comedown

In this dry schedule some might see a big comedown from the days when being Philippine president was a cachet to festivities inside the Beltway. Ferdinand Marcos was feted; Corazon Aquino addressed the U.S. Congress, some of whose members wore Cory dolls on their lapels. Fidel Ramos will meet whichever congressman can spare him time from the recess or attending the debates on the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Others think the ordinariness of Ramos' visit is a good sign. It indicates that relations are finally "normal" between two countries which have had such passionate and turbulent ties.

Those ties were sundered two years ago when Filipinos said goodbye to the American bases. The event was a watershed, and perhaps historians will divide Fil-American relations into two epochs, With and Without Bases.

If they did, they'd probably note that the second period heralded an ice age. Relations have become cooler since the bases pullout: Asian specialist Larry Niksch points out that U.S. aid to the Philippines has plummeted; the Philippine Affairs office at the U.S. State Department has been dissolved and merged with the office dealing with Southeast Asia. In Manila, the political section of the American embassy has been reduced.

Some Filipinos think their country is being treated with pique if not vengefulness. An American official replies that it's not pique Filipinos should be concerned about—it's indifference.

Whatever the sentiment, the pique/indifference should finally cure many Filipinos of the delusion that "special relations" transcended the military bases. Without the bases, the Philippines has now become just another western Pacific nation. In this context, the Ramos visit is an exercise in public relations and a quest for identity. If we're no longer special relatives, what are we now? "The two presidents," says Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Rodolfo Severino, "will have a chance to look at the relationship and see what the nature of it should and can be."

But first...attention. The undersecretary says that one objective of the trip is "to some extent, we're trying to bring the Philippines back to the consciousness of the Americans...we're trying to tell them that it's still around." He says that the government is hiring an American public relations firm advising on media affairs and overcoming negative impressions of the Philippines.

More Than Just A Face

Severino concedes that to the United States, the Philippines is just another face in a crowd of petitioners. But it's a face that brings back memories. There are ties of language, approximate political institutions and values.

There have been a few queries in Manila's press about why Ramos needs to go at all. The question is easily answered. First, the United States is the sole remaining power and can't be ignored. Second, it also happens to be the Philippines largest trading partner, one with which it furthermore enjoys a favorable trade balance. Last year, exports to the United States totaled \$4.35 billion, while imports came to \$2.75 billion. The Ramos administration wants to raise Philippine exports to the United States to \$8 billion by 1998.

Third, there is a Mutual Defense Treaty that still exists between the two countries. Severino says that "geography can't be altered and the Philippines still occupies a pretty strategic position in the western Pacific."

Fourth there is a huge Filipino community in the United States, and the government is only beginning to wake up to the possibilities of having a lobby such as Israel's.

All of these will be touched by the president's visit. While no bilateral arrangements or announcements are on the plate, members of the entourage (which will number more than 200) will fan out and do their own talking. The energy secretary is expected to sign a geothermal contract; the trade secretary will discuss textiles and electronics, and renewing the generalized system of preferences (GSP). Filipino businessmen and industrialists will explore investment and trade possibilities.

Severino doesn't think that hot issues such as the Westinghouse case, or amnesty for the Rowe killers will be discussed, though Ramos might bring up debt reduction.

For the undersecretary, the visit's substantive goal isn't anything that can be signed or framed. "We want a better understanding of each other's thinking and philosophy. The message we want to convey is that the Philippines is back in business at the heart of Asia."

He adds: "Frankly, we expect the visit to result in more U.S. investments to the Philippines."

This makes the president's visit basically a selling mission, and Severino is confident it will go well. "Not that you have low expectations, but you have a grasp of what presidential visits are for."

The party might have a few rough moments if questions are asked about convicted murderers walking out of jail, or police gunning down motorists. And it might not be easy to get new investors coming to the Philippines when even old hands here are far from happy about the environment. They point to power failures, protected markets, corruption and bureaucracy, to the jokes about "Board of Impediments" instead of investments. Still, the conditions haven't stopped old companies from reinvesting and the Ramos trip plans to use these firms' testimonials.

No Ruffles

As to personal interaction, an American source says that President Clinton is not a "protocol type...it's a matter of 'let's meet, let's talk, that was nice, ciao'—no ruffles, no flourishes."

Severino thinks the two presidents have some things in common. "They're both hands on, action-oriented, eager to get things done and in a lot of ways both of them have relaxed personalities in the sense of not being high-strung."

Not that they'll have particularly wrenching issues to talk about. Still, the American source says "it's unfair to call the meeting ceremonial just because there are no boiling issues on the stove, this is an opportunity to lay a foundation for a new era."

Opportunity beckons as well in the APEC meeting. Heading off questions about why Ramos should go to Seattle, Severino asks: "Can you imagine him not being there? APEC is the only association that straddles two continents."

While still far from formed, APEC gathers the major economic powers of the Pacific Rim. It is not a trade bloc, and it probably won't turn into an economic community, but it offers immense possibilities to countries such as the Philippines, which wants to practice economic diplomacy and development through trade.

Severino explains: "APEC has both developed and developing countries, their economies are highly complementary."

One official in the foreign affairs department thinks APEC could turn into an engine for global trade liberalization. "All told, it's better to be in at the creation."

At the very least, Ramos will be meeting the leaders of the Asia- Pacific's economic powers.

Psychological Value

But beyond all this, the importance of the Ramos visit is psychological. The Philippines is finally practicing its own diplomacy, free of the entanglements caused by hosting the American bases.

Even the sequencing of Ramos' visit has significance. It will be his eighth foreign trip, coming after he had visited countries in the region.

An American official points out that even if the bases treaty had been approved, the installations probably would have been pulled out anyway.

"One of the ironies of history is that precisely after all the haranguing, if the bases hadn't been kicked out, they'd probably been phased out in fairly short time."

What was crucial, and caused the anger in the United States, was that the Filipinos did it before the Americans did.

As Ramos himself said recently, for the first time in four centuries, there are no longer any foreign forces on Philippine soil.

The American source notes the liberating effect this has had. "The Filipino is finally master of his own house."

Government 'To Run Smoothly' During Absence BK1011062993 Quezon City PTV-4 Television Network

BK1011062993 Quezon City PTV-4 Television Network in Tagalog 0500 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Executive Secretary Teofisto Guingona has assured the public that the government will continue to

run smoothly while President Ramos is in the United States. Guingona said the president did not appoint a caretaker because he can still perform his duties through a communications center in Malacanang [presidential palace] and in the states Ramos will be visiting.

[Begin Guingona recording in English, in progress] ...a command center or a coordinating center in the executive building, and we have an executive committee that takes charge of the day-to-day affairs, and all of these are coordinated with the office of the Senate president, the vice president, the speaker, and the other cabinet members. So whatever major developments happen here of interest—if it's peace and order, food supply, etcetera—we send immediately to him, and he, in turn, if he has anything that he wants to instruct or implement, he immediately communicates with us. [end recording]

Agreement Signed With Japanese Prefecture

BK0711100893 Mantla MANILA BULLETIN in English 3 Nov 93 p B-23

[By Del Villanueva]

[Text] Oita, Japan—The ties between Oita Prefecture and the Philippines' Calabarzon [Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon] subregion were further strengthened with the signing last week of a joint communique calling for the exchange of knowledge and expertise between the two parties.

The joint communique was signed by Oita Gov. Morihiko Hiramatsu and the governors of Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon who conducted a five-day visit to this Japanese prefecture together with some officials of the Department of Trade and Industry [DTI] and heads of various government agencies and nongovernment organizations.

Under the agreement, both sides have expressed desire to assist each other in imparting-exchanging expertise and knowledge in the fields of agriculture, fishery, forestry, industry and "One Village, One Product Movement" for regional development revitalization.

In pursuit of these goals, both sides have agreed to exchange relevant government and non-government personnel in order to promote mutual cooperation and cultural exchanges.

In a brief speech, Governor Hiramatsu lauded the efforts of the DTI officials led by Undersecretary Tomas Alcantara in fostering relations between Oita Prefecture and the Calabarzon sub-region.

He said that Calabarzon is a growing region in the Philippines that is very ideal for the introduction and propagation of the "One Village, One Product Movement."

According to him, the movement which became successful in Oita could be replicated in the Calabarzon because of its vast potentials as an investment area.

Cavite Gov. Juanito R. Remulla, who also spoke during the meeting in his capacity as chairman of the Calabarzon Coordinating Council, thanked the Oita prefectural officials for their desire in establishing closer relation and mutual cooperation with the five provinces.

He said that the agreement that was signed between the two parties will go a long way in pushing the development of Calabarzon, particularly in the fields of agriculture, fishery, forestry and industry.

According to him, the "One Village, One Product Movement," which made its roots in Oita, will surely promote economic progress in the Calabarzon sub-region by encouraging the people to create and market products unique to their localities.

Remulla together with Governors Restituto Luna of Laguna, Vicente Mayo of Batangas, Casimiro Ynares of Rizal and Eddie Rodriguez of Quezon conducted a five-day investment mission and study tour in Oita prefecture upon the invitation of Governor Hiramatsu.

Also in the 24-man delegation were Directors Alfredo Torres of the Department of Public Works and Highways, Antonio Principe of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Lirio Calixto of National Economic Development Authority, Louie Jurilla of the Department of Tourism, Jose Garrido of the Department of Agriculture and Richard Osmond of the trade department.

Ramos Orders 'Intensified' Anti-Crime Effort

BK0811064093 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] President Ramos ordered more intensified operations on crime prevention and the complete destruction of all kidnap-for-ransom groups to enable the country to move more effectively forward.

The president issued his directive during the third anniversary celebration of the Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao [ARMM]. He and his party were met at the Awang Airport by ARMM leaders, headed by ARMM Governor and Mrs. Liningding Pangandaman.

In his speech, delivered at the multisectoral assembly at the ARMM complex, the president underscored the people's great desire for peace, acknowledging the successful military operations to rescue seven-year-old Sandy Ventura after almost six months in captivity. The president said, quote, while I fully recognize these efforts, I would like to see more intensified operations in the area of prevention. I would like to see likewise the complete destruction of all kidnap-for-ransom groups, unquote. He reiterated his directive for the Philippine National Police, the Armed Forces of the Philippines, and the National Bureau of Investigation to intensify their operations against kidnap-for-ransom groups. He added, the significance of peace and order is measured not only by the number of rescue operations successfully

conducted, but also by the number of people who can freely move about with confidence about their safety. As long as there are lawless elements that roam in your midst, you cannot expect investments to flow into this area. Where can we expect our local businessmen to expand their investments here? I would like to see our peacekeeping forces deployed in places where they are needed most.

He also ordered a stop to the practice of some policemen and military personnel serving as bodyguards of politicians, government officials, businessmen, and even their children. Our peacekeeping forces must be used to protect the community, and not only particular individuals or elite groups, he said. He instructed the leaders to take positive steps to improve the lives of their constituents and order the more intensive implementation of Oplan Paglalansag [Operation Dismantling] to collect the thousands of loose firearms proliferating in the ARMM provinces.

He briefed southern Mindanao the progress of the Jakarta talks between the government panel, headed by former Ambassador Manuel Yan, and the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF], under Nur Misuari. [sentence as heard] The first round of formal talks, he said, ended Sunday. While there was no major breakthrough on the core issues, he said the talks provide a basis for continuity of dialogue and problem-solving. It also resulted in an agreement with the MNLF, or Moro National Liberation Front, for temporary cessation of hostilities while the negotiations are ongoing. He expects Misuari to participate in the meeting in various places in Mindanao of the mixed committee to tackle the residual issues in the Tripoli Agreement. He appealed to all to help make the peace talks successful.

MNLF Cease-Fire Takes Effect in Mindanao

BK1011064593 Quezon City PTV-4 Television Network in Tagalog 0500 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] A cease-fire in the southern Philippines between the government troops and the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] rebels has been enforced.

This was revealed by the local officials of Mindanao following the signing of an interim agreement reached by the government and the MNLF panels during their peace talks held in Jakarta, Indonesia.

The cease-fire order was given to the government troops by Department of National Defense Secretary Renato de Villa and Rafael Alunan, Department of Interior and Local Government secretary, and by MNLF Chairman Nur Misuari himself to the armed Muslims in Mindanao.

Three Quezon CAFGU Companies Deactivated
BK0711115493 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in
English 3 Nov 93 p 12

[By Owen Masaganda]

[Text] Camp Nakar, Lucena City—Three Citizen's Armed Forces Geographical Units (CAFGU) composed of 240 men and attached with the Quezon Philippine National Police [PNP] Command were deactivated and their firearms recalled under "Oplan Paglalansag" [Operation Dismantle].

Quezon PNP Director Supt. Enrique Cuadra reported to PNP Recom [Regional Command] 4 Director Manuel A. Salimbangon that the company deactivated were detailed with the first, second, and third districts of the PNP.

A total of 162 high-powered firearms were recalled and deposited at the Quezon PNP Armory here. The Quezon PNP now has a total collection of 209 assorted firearms including the 11 rifles, one .50 caliber heavy machine gun, recovered from the New People's Army after an encounter at barangay [village] Bagong Bunang Pagbilao, Quezon.

Cuadra said the militiamen were deactivated because the peace and order situation in the province has greatly improved since the surrender of Leopoldo Mabilangan alias Ka [Comrade] Hector of the Banahaw Command and his men. Ka Hector is now a cooperative leader among farmers in Batangas and Quezon.

Cuadra said that the deactivated CAFGU will be sent to the Second Division of the Philippine Army.

Parties Pledge To Support Government Programs

BK0911051993 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English

5 Nov 93 p 16

[Text] Ten of the country's major political parties have pledged to set aside their traditional differences in ideology to work together for national reconciliation, peace and development.

This commitment was made by the Lakas-NUCD [Power of the Nation-National Union of Christian Democrats], Kilusang Bagong Lipunan [New Society Movement], Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino [Struggle of Filipino Democrats], Liberal Party, Nacionalista Party [Nationalist Party], Nationalist People's Coalition, PDP-Laban [Philippine Democratic Party-Nation's Strength], Partido ng Masang Pilipino [Party of the Filipino Masses], People's Reform Party, the PDSP [Philippines Social Democratic Party], and the Philippine Constitutional Association.

Leaders of these parties also pledged to work for constitutional and structural reforms, a peace forum, a focus on economic growth, national consensus, and unity, Malacanang declared. Under constitutional and structural reforms, the signatories noted the need to amend the 1987 Constitution to restructure tools for economic growth to cope with challenges. They pledged to "harness the collective wisdom of the different political parties through the submission of written, (and) constructive constitutional proposals," Malacanang said.

The parties also agreed to establish a forum by which inter-party differences and misunderstandings would be threshed out peacefully.

On the issue of economics, they agreed to present "constructive and innovative" economic proposals to the Executive and Legislative to push the economic agenda and development efforts. The signatories said they would pool their efforts on "desirable and beneficial goals of Government such as those on peace and order, and developmental efforts to uplift our economy."

Government Decries Lost Investor Confidence

BK0911091193 Quezon City MALAYA in English 5 Nov 93 p 9

[By Lou Palpal-Latoc]

[Text] Socio-Economic Planning Secretary Cielito Habito yesterday shrugged off the P17 billion [Philippine pesos] loss the manufacturing sector suffered during the first semester due to the power crisis, and instead lamented the far greater loss of "investor confidence."

For this year, Habito estimates that losses due to the power crisis will reach P25 billion for the whole year, P15 billion less than the P40 billion estimate made by industrialist Raul T. Concepcion.

Habito admitted that most foreign investors decided either to postpone or cancel their expansion and new projects in the country during the first semester because of the power crisis.

Early on the power crisis, private sector leaders and the government were saying that "investors who are really interested are willing to shoulder the added cost of power generating sets." Now it turned out that although most investors could afford to buy generator sets, most of them preferred to wait for the improvement of power supply to avoid additional cost.

Habito said that the economy could have rebounded stronger during the first semester had it not been for the crisis.

The gross national product managed to expand by 3.5 percent during the second semester because of increase in remittances by overseas contract workers.

The gross domestic product also managed to grow by 1.8 percent during the second quarter because of the increase in infrastructure and real estate construction by government and private sectors.

Trade Secretary Rizalino Navarro said in his report that the estimated losses by the manufacturing sector due to the power crisis reached P17.156 billion during the first semester. The losses of the manufacturing sector at the height of the power crisis during the second quarter rose by 77.8 percent to P10.98 billion from P6.18 billion during the first semester.

On a sectoral level, the manufacturers of consumer goods were the hardest hit by the power crisis during the first semester. The total losses of the sector reached P10.83 billion, the bulk of which or P6.93 billion were lost during the second quarter, and P3.899 billion were lost during the first semester.

The gross value added by the food manufacturing dropped by P8 billion, while footwear production dropped by P1.17 billion.

The National Economic and Development Authority [NEDA], however, expects the manufacturing sector to rebound beginning the fourth quarter when the power situation improves.

The NEDA predicted that the GNP will grow by 5 percent during the last quarter because of increase in consumer spending, production, and investments.

List of Duty-Free Products Proposed

BK0811111393 Quezon City PTV-4 Television Network in Tagalog 0500 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] The Philippines is ready to lift the tariffs imposed on imported products. This was disclosed by the Department of Trade and Industry [DTI] in connection with the reopening of the conference on General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

DTI Undersecretary Cesar Bautista was referring to imported industrial goods, such as boilers, television images [as heard], sound recorders, machinery, mechanical appliances, and nuclear reactors. These duty decisions on various goods will be proposed by the Philippine committee after the resumption of GATT negotiations. The country is hoping that with this move, other countries will also lift import duties on some products.

24 State-Owned Assets Sold by 30 September

BK0711070293 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 2 Nov 93 p 17

[By Corrie S. Narisma]

[Text] The Asset Privatization Trust (APT) sold 24 more government assets worth P1.92 billion [Philippine pesos] during the first nine months of the year. This brought to 309 items worth P34.36 billion the total assets sold by the APT during the past six years. Sales during the first three quarters of the year, according to a report of the APT, already represent 96.15 percent of its P2-billion target for the year. Only 95 assets under the APT's portfolio remain as another 63 accounts have been partially sold.

The revenue generated by the APT excluded the proceeds from the disposition of government owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs) estimated at P706 million and the recovery of some P132 million from the transfer of agricultural land to the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR).

Proceeds from the sale of GOCCs accrue to the parent corporation while recoveries from land transferred to the DAR await confirmation of the Land Bank of the Philippines.

Of the 247 assets fully sold by the APT, 58 accounts worth P4.65 billion were sold through bidding. The amount recovered represents only about 25 percent of the P20.83-billion government exposure in these firms. Another 59 assets worth P5.18 billion were fully privatized through the direct debt buy-out scheme on both the transfer price and appraised value basis. Recovery rate in this mode of disposition was over 65 percent.

APT chief Ramon Garcia said that 89 assets worth P14.9 billion were disposed through negotiated sale while 11 other assets were retrieved by government financial institutions (GFIs). The remaining 30 assets were disposed through other means. Of the partially sold assets, 30 accounts were through bidding; 25, negotiated sale; three, DDBO [expansion unknown], and four, through other schemes.

Garcia said that of the 157 remaining assets, only 42 were easily salable and another 17 were hard to sell assets. A total of 43 accounts were facing legal problems, 13 were for foreclosure, 22 were beyond APT's control, and 20 were assets with no recoverable value.

The APT is focusing on the easily saleable assets to achieve its sales and remittance targets for the year.

The biggest assets disposed by the APT during the past six year included the P7.11-billion Nonoc Mining and Industrial Corp. (NMIC); the P1.146-billion NDC-Elizalde Steel Industries Inc.; the P752.99-million Northern Cement Corp.; the P500-million United Planters Sugarmill; the P3.1-billion PNB [Philippine National Bank] Complex; the P673-million Maricalum Mining Corp.; the P1.12-billion DBP [Development Bank of the Philippines] reclamation site, and the P945.05-million Meralco Foundation Inc.

Big-ticket accounts which remain unsold included the Philippine Shipyard and Engineering Corp. (Philseco), the Paper Industries Corporation of the Philippines (Picop), the Pantranco North Express Inc., and the national government's financial claims in the Philippine Amanah Bank and the San Carlos Fruit Corp.

As of September this year, the APT has already remitted P20.55 billion to the Bureau of Treasury. The balance represents assets that are payable on installment. The APT disposed 10 GOCCs worth P706.55 million during the period. The biggest of which were the P172.63-million Negros Occidental Copperfield Mining, the

P150-million Republic Planters Bank, and the P131.8-million NDC-Asia Industries, Inc.

Assets placed under the APT portfolio included 399 accounts transferred by the Development Bank of the Philippines and the Philippine National Bank; 27 GOCCs; nine from the Philippine Export and Foreign Loan Guarantee Corp., and 11 from the National Development Co.

Government Pushes Northern Luzon Investment BK0711102493 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in

BK0711102493 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 2 Nov 93 p B-10

[Text] Dagupan City—Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. has urged foreign and local investors to take advantage of the attractive terms offered by the build-operate-transfer (BOT) law and its amendments as he disclosed a P70-billion [Philippine pesos] investment program for Pangasinan, La Union and Baguio City.

De Venecia, who is principal author of the BOT scheme together with Rep. Felicito Payumo, said the law is being amended in the House of Representatives to make it more attractive to foreign and local investors.

He said the congressmen would try to pass the new amendments to the BOT law during the special session scheduled on 3 to 6 November.

However, should they fail to pass the measure during the special session, the House will pass it during the regular session or before the Christmas break.

"Foreign and local investors can be immensely benefitted by the large-scale application of the BOT law and its variations while at the same time help finance President Ramos' industrialization program," De Venecia said.

The Speaker said the Ilocos-Pangasinan seaboard could be developed through the BOT law without cost to the Philippine government.

Addressing the mayors and civic leaders of Pangasinan during his visit to the province over the weekend to launch 11 housing projects, De Venecia said that he, President Ramos, the Bases Conversion Authority, the National Power Corp., and the Department of Trade have firmed up the following investments in Northern Luzon:

1. P30-billion power plant for Sual, Pangasinan;

2. P30-billion base conversion project for La Union's Wallace field and Baguio City's Camp John Hay; and

3. P10-billion cement plant and support infrastructures in Bolinao, Pangasinan.

He said that President Ramos and Congressmen Juan Ponce Enrile, Francisco Mamba and Edgardo Lara of Cagayan, Eric Singson and Mariano Tajon of Ilocos Sur, Victor Ortega and Jose Aspiras of La Union, and Roque Ablan and Ferdinand Marcos Jr. of Ilocos Norte are

designing new impact projects for their provinces. He added that the other congressmen have been mobilized to attract foreign and local investments to their districts.

The Speaker also recently challenged and mobilized the 49 congressmen from Mindanao to attract investors to build ports, airports, highways, railways and telecommunications projects in Mindanao under the BOT law.

Under House Bill No. 10943 amending the BOT law, it proposes, among others to include unsolicited proposals as eligible projects for the BOT scheme and allows for direct negotiations upon failure of public bidding provided these projects do not involve government financing or financing guarantees. The bill's authors said the requirement that a BOT project must be included in the government's medium-term infrastructure program has prevented other proposals from prospective BOT investors.

Thailand

Reportage, Commentary on Thai Workers in Libya

Efforts Made To Avert Expulsion.

BK1011010993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Nov 93 pp 1, 3

[Excerpts] Thailand has mounted a diplomatic campaign to try to avert the order by Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to expel 10,000 Thai workers from his country.

The move comes at the same time as a report from AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the first group of 200 workers had left the North African country yesterday. Libyan immigration officials said the 200 Thais travelled by bus to the Tunisian airport of Jarba just across the border because of a UN air embargo on Libya for its alleged role in the 1988 Lockerbie plane bombing. The workers will not be allowed back into Libya, the officials said.

Deputy Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs Pratyathawi Thewakun said a high-level delegation would be sent to Libya to ask the authorities there to reverse its decision to dismiss the Thai workers from its soil. Mr Pratyathawi said the delegation would be of a ministry level or a special envoy appointed by the Prime Minister to represent the Government. The team will be despatched to Tripoli as soon as the Foreign Ministry overtures through diplomatic channels in Bangkok receive a positive response from Libya, he said.

Foreign Ministry officials said the ministry was trying to contact the Libyan ambassador to Malaysia to invite him for talks in Thailand to discuss the proposal. The Thai ambassador to Greece, Sukhum Ratsamithat has also been ordered to coordinate with the Libyan Government on the Thai plan.

Mr Pratyathawi himself is expected to be one of the delegates who will visit Libya along with representatives of the Foreign and Labour and Social Welfare ministries. The delegation will be headed by an official from the Labour and Social Welfare Ministry.

The Foreign Ministry yesterday morning held a meeting of department chiefs attended by Khunying Saengdao Sayamwanla, Gen [General] Saiyut Koetphon and Wirot Sakunmuthita. Khunying Saengdao is president of the Thai-Muslim Women's Association and is known to be close to Col [Colonel] al-Qadhdhafi. Mr Wirot is the owner of the W&M recruitment company closed recently by the Government for sending Thai workers illegally to Libya.

Mr Pratyathawi said the delegation's task would be a difficult one but Thailand would not bow to any pressure which Libya might exert during the talks. "We would like to see workers stay there. We have to admit that. But we will not allow them to be pressed by Libya," he said. "Libya also needs labour from Thailand."

Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri also said diplomatic steps had been undertaken but declined to give details, citing their delicate nature. He also refused comment when asked if Thailand's recent decision to join the Non-Aligned Movement [NAM] would benefit the country in its dealings with Libya.

Sqn Ldr [Squadron Leader] Prasong said the problem between Thailand and Libya was a bilateral one and had nothing to do with his decision to make the kingdom a member of NAM. He said Col al-Qadhdhafi had mentioned the possibility of expelling Thai workers to a group of students and it appeared the issue had been picked up by the media and blown out of proportion.

"I have no comment to make for the moment but we are making diplomatic efforts on the matter," he said. "I hope this problem will not expand into more trouble. I believe there are still ways to reach an understanding." [passage omitted]

Deputy Prime Minister Amnuai Wirawan is to chair a meeting of government agencies at Parliament today to review the evacuation plan.

The Foreign Ministry is contacting companies working on projects in Libya to locate the 25,000 Thai workers in that country. The evacuation plan will cover all Thai workers, not just the 10,000 ordered to leave by Col al-Qadhdhafi.

Interior Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut, who was told by US Ambassador David Lambertson that Thai workers were allegedly building a chemical plant in Libya said yesterday he had no factual information about the reported expulsion threat by Col al-Qadhdhafi.

The Thai Labour Office in Libya has been asked for information and other agencies in Thailand are being asked to coordinate with efforts to solve the problem.

"It may just be that we did not hear clearly what Col al-Qadhdhafi has said," said Gen Chawalit.

Ministers Cite Expired Contracts

BK1011135293 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 10 Nov 93

(Text) Deputy Prime Minister Amnuai Wiwaran, who is chairman of the ad hoc committee to help workers in Libya, reported after a committee meeting held this afternoon at the parliament building that the committee was briefed by various government agencies on facts about the ongoing issue. It concluded that the situation was not serious and that what happened was a result of inaccurate reports by the foreign news media. This morning 187 Thai workers arrived from Libya. Authorities who met with the workers learned that they returned because their contracts had expired.

The deputy prime minister said that the ad hoc committee for helping workers in Libya decided that efforts should be made through diplomatic channels in order to establish a good understanding between the authorities involved, and the Foreign Ministry has taken this responsibility. At present, the deputy prime minister said, there is nothing to worry because this is a routine incident. He said it is not the duty of his committee to send ministerial-level representatives for talks with high-level authorities in Libya. This is the responsibility of the Foreign Ministry as assigned by the government. The government wanted the ministry to resort to diplomatic mechanisms in negotiations.

Meanwhile, Phaithun Kaeothong, labor and social welfare deputy minister, said the 187 workers who arrived this morning came home because their contracts have expired. There are 10 among them who hold passports with multiple entry visas for Libya. The minister confirmed that those workers were not expelled from Libya as reported. Asked whether there should be an explanation to Libya about its claim that Thailand supported the United States, he said the Foreign Ministry has been seeking to clarify this issue to Libya. The Labor Ministry has acted consistently in order to crack down on illegal job placement companies, and, as a result, 47 companies have been closed for illegally operating job placement services.

Deputy Labor Minister Comments

BK1011100593 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Before the House of Representatives meeting this morning, Soemsak Karun, deputy minister of labor and social welfare, talked to reporters about plans to help Thai workers in Libya.

Regarding Thai labor in Libya, he said there has been only news. However, the Thai Foreign Affairs Ministry is in the process of holding talks with its Libyan counterpart and some progress is expected soon.

Asked if there will be control of workers so that they will not be illegally sent to work abroad, the deputy labor and social welfare minister said that this has been regularly done under the supervision of the Skill Labor Development Department, in accordance with Labor Ministry regulations.

That Libya will send Thai workers back home, he said this is what the mass media has reported and it must be very carefully dealt with because it involves national interests.

Asked if whether the Labor Ministry has explained the facts of this issue to Libya before, the deputy labor and social welfare minister replied that this is not the duty of the Labor Ministry but the Foreign Affairs Ministry, which has been exerting an all-out effort. The Labor Ministry has the responsibility of taking care of workers to help them feel secure and boost their morale so that they would not be easily shaken by events. Therefore, all talks will be in the hands of the Foreign Ministry, which is undoubtedly believed to be able to create an understanding with Libya.

Opposition To Debate Issue

BK1011013993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Nov 93 pp 1, 3

[Excerpt] The Opposition last night announced it would include the problems caused by Libya's announcement it will expel 10,000 Thai workers from its soil in its censure motion against Interior Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut.

Gen [General] Chawalit holds the concurrent post of labour and social welfare minister so must be responsible for the problem affecting Thai workers in Libya, said Prachakon Thai Party leader Samak Suntharawet.

The opposition decision to include the Libyan problems in the motion was reached at a meeting last night of key members of the Opposition at the home of Chat Phatthana Party leader Chatchai Chunhawan.

Mr Samak said the entire Government should take responsibility for problems involving the Thai workers in Libya.

Pramarn Adireksan, the secretary to opposition leader Pramarn Adireksan, said Libya's expulsion of the Thai workers was unprecedented. He said Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri had claimed that Thailand would benefit from becoming a member of the Non-Aligned Movement [NAM], but the current problem with Libya, itself a member of NAM, appeared to indicate the opposite.

The Government's handling of its foreign policy has caused a loss of regional interests for the country and the entire Government should take responsibility, said Mr Pongphon. [passage omitted]

Opposition Challenges Government

BK1011003793 Bangkok THE NATION in English 10 Nov 93 p A2

[Text] The opposition, which once severely attacked the government for joining the Non-aligned Movement (NAM), yesterday challenged the coalition to prove the value of the membership by asking Libya to allow Thai workers to stay on despite an expulsion order.

Social Action Party Secretary-General Chaloem Yubamrung said Foreign Minister Prasons Sunsiri had to negotiate with Libyan leader Col Muammar al-Qadhdhafi to allow Thai workers to remain in the country.

Al-Qadhdhafi on Sunday ordered Thai workers to leave the country, alleging that Thailand had supported U.S. charges that Libya was making chemical weapons. Chaloem said it was now time for Prasong to prove the value of joining the NAM after trumpeting the benefits of the membership several times.

"The foreign minister must prove to us the usefulness of NAM membership by negotiating with Libya for Thai workers to stay on," Chaloem said. "If he fails to do so, the opposition will speak against him."

Thailand joined NAM last month to heavy opposition criticism which feared that the membership would anger Bangkok's western allies, especially the United States.

Chat Pattana Party leader Chatchai Chunhawan said he would hold the entire Cabinet responsible for the fate of Thai workers in Libya.

"The whole Cabinet must be 100 percent responsible for the repatriation of the workers," Chatichai said. He said the expulsion of Thai workers would cost the country a huge amount of revenue from labour export. But Chatchai yesterday contradicted himself on Thailand's NAM membership which he said had led to al-Oadhdhafi's action against Bangkok.

"I've warned several times about joining NAM. This group has a lot of extraordinary people, like al-Qadhdhafi and (Iraqi President) Saddam," Chatchai said. But he said NAM membership would make it easier for Thailand to negotiate with Libya.

Commentators Consider Expulsion

BK1011102193

[Editorial Report] Three Bangkok vernacular daily newspapers—SIAM POST, NAEO NO, and THAI RAT on 10 November published commentaries on Libyan leader Muammar al-Qadhdhafi's 7 November statement on his decision to dismiss and expel several thousand Thai workers from Libya.

SIAM POST's 500-word article, on page 3, headlined: "Al-Qadhdhafi Drives Out Thai Workers," cites the Libyan leader's statement on the expulsion of Thai workers. The article says: "The Thai Government began

feeling uneasy about the problem of Thai workers in Libya a long time ago when the United States began stressing that it had reliable information proving that Thai workers were employed at a Libyan chemical weapons plant in violation of the antichemical weapon treaty of which Thailand is a signatory."

The article reviews the antagonistic relations between Libya and the west, particularly the Unites States, and notes: "The United States has been keeping a close watch on Libya, and even the private Thai companies involved in chemical weapons production. If the situation deteriorates further, the United States might send its jets to bomb the country.

"Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's decision to expel 10,000 Thai workers in retaliation for Thailand's behavior as a stooge of the United States will have adverse effects on the workers themselves. Some people in the government, however, might be pleased with such a development because it can save the government money if it has to take these workers home should the situation become more troublesome.

"The job placement companies must be held responsible for bringing their workers back from Libya. So far, no government officials have dared go to Libya for negotiations because they feel uncertain about what will happen in Libya. Some even fear that they might be held as hostages."

NAEO NA's 250-word column by Thaklaeokla, on page 2, headlined: "The Thais in Libya," says: "At first, it sounded like Thailand and Libya understood each other. until al-Qadhdhafi vented his outrage in his television address. On the afternoon of the same day, Prime Minister Chuan Likphai said no Thai workers had been sent back. The situation seemed improved. It is the Thai workers, however, who will have to bear the consequences. They had to pay job placement agencies to go there, and now they cannot find jobs. What will happen to their families and where will they get the money to pay the mortgages on their farmland? The hardship of the 20,000 workers and their families is too colossal for anyone to handle. They cannot count on the government. The people in the government always sing different songs and rock the boat. When the United States made its threat, I saw the response from the big shot in the Foreign Ministry. But when Libya threatened to send workers home, only the Labor Ministry reacted, clamoring that Thailand has never tailed after the United States or been intimidated by the latter, while making preparations to take workers home by claiming that they worked in Libya illegally. It is apparent that the government intends to please both the United States and Libya, and does not care what will happen to the workers if the two giants fight."

THAI RAT's 300-word column by Chalamkhiao, on page 3, headlined: "From Rice to Libya," reviews the low paddy price problem and possible solutions.

Touching on the massive lay-off of Thai workers in Libya, the columnist says: "There are now two points of concern:

- "1. What will happen to those Thai workers if they are chased out of Libya with no safety guarantee? Both the Foreign and Labor Ministries should keep in close contact with the workers and send officials to help them now. If anything happens to these workers or injures the national prestige, the government will get all the blame.
- "2. Judging from the indignation expressed by al-Qadhdhafi, we can see that in addition to the United States, all Thai people in the country have inevitably been dragged forward to become the enemy of the Libyan leader.

"Libya has been branded the No. I supporter of international terrorism. When al-Qadhdhafi is angry with us, we can no longer stand idle. If we do not have intelligence officials directly in charge of Libyan affairs, we must now to cope with any eventuality. If the conflict escalates to the international level, Thailand can also become a target of international terrorism. Prevention is better than a cure."

Garment Association Seeks Higher U.S. Quotas BK1011013393 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Nov 93 p 28

[Text] The Thai Garment Manufacturing Association has rejected the extension of Thailand's agreement on textile and garment export quotas with the United States because the quotas are not high enough, it says.

Association president Wirot Amatakunchai said the private sector feels that Thailand should bargain for higher aggregate quotas to cover growth in Thailand's exports of textiles and garments to the United States.

He said the agreement now limits such exports to 202 million square metres, including 148 million square metres in specific categories ("Specific Limit") and 54 million square metres of products not in these categories, which can be shipped freely within the total quota ("Non-Specific Limit").

Association secretary Det Phatthanasethaphong said the 202 million square metres are not enough. The country's exports are expected to increase 12.8 percent to help Thailand reach its worldwide garment export target of 109,000 million baht next year.

In the first ten months of this year Thailand had used 84.26 percent of its quotas. It exported 61 million square metres, or 114 percent of its Non-Specific Limit quota, but used only 73 percent of its Specific Limit quota.

Thailand is expected to use all its U.S. quotas this year, with 20,000-million-baht-worth of garment exports.

Mr Det told Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon that he wants Mr Uthai to negotiate higher quotas at a

ministerial-level meeting with the United States during Mr Uthai's participation in the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting next week.

Foreign Trade Department Director General Oranut Osathanon is to negotiate an extension of the textile and garment quotas with the United States on November 15-16. Mr Wirot will accompany the Thai delegation to the meeting.

The United States has asked to extend the bilateral agreement for two years without any changes.

Japanese Ambassador Views Trade, Other Issues BK0811012193 Bangkok THE NATION in English 8 Nov 93 pp B1, B2

[Interview with Japanese Ambassador to Thailand Hiroaki Fujii by Editor Thepchai Yong and senior reporter Nophakhun Limsamanphun of THE NATION—place and date not given]

[Text] [THE NATION] US President Bill Clinton is going to host the Apec meeting in Seattle from Nov 17-20. What will Japan's position be at this crucial meeting, to be held less than one month before the Dec 15 deadline for a Gatt conclusion?

[Fujii] Japan regards Apec as a very important forum which supplements Gatt and Apec desires for regional cooperation, which is also open to the world. Combined GNP of the countries belonging to Apec is about half the world's total GNP. So we regard Apec as a centrepiece in the Asia-Pacific area.

The most important thing is to accumulate specific achievements in Apec. We believe the negotiations for liberalising trade have to be held globally. At this moment, the Uruguay Round is going on. Apec is a supplementary organization that strengthens the Gatt system. Apec has to cooperate with the rest of the world. Trade negotiations have to be held on a global basis.

[THE NATION] Will Apec be used as a bargaining chip in pressuring the EC to be more responsive?

[Fujii] Basically regional cooperation which is open to the world will expedite global cooperation. Apec is useful in many respects. Japan's closed rice market is often cited as a major obstacle to concluding the Uruguay Round.

I understand that the Uruguay Round has some difficulties concerning the US-French impasse on farm subsidies. The rice question has to be considered in the context of mutual cooperation by countries in an effort to make the Round successful. It has to be dealt with in connection with the other difficult problems each country has with the Round. In the case of Japan, rice is crucially important for daily consumption and our farmers. Any solution needs to respect this.

There will be some more orders for Thai rice this year. Next year, we're not sure. Press reports of a second order for 110,000 tonnes of Thai rice are not official. We have already ordered the first 130,000 tonnes.

[THE NATION] Can we expect more positive developments on the rice issue in the lead-up to the Gatt deadline?

[Fujii] I don't know the precise results of our agriculture minister's meeting with the Gatt secretary-general. He just came back.

[THE NATION] Regionalism is becoming popular. The Thai government has announced plans to create multi-country economic growth areas. One is the quadrangular growth area involving Thailand, southern China, Laos and Burma, and the other is the sub-regional economic area involving Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia. How does Japan view these plans and what kind of role does it expect to play?

[Fujii] These plans are quite natural given that the political problems have gone. We're watching developments with great interest. The Japanese Chamber of Commerce in Thailand is arranging a visit to Yunan on its own, as the private sector wants to get first-hand knowledge of the prospects for this southern Chinese province. Indeed, the proposed quadrangular growth area has great potential.

At the government level, we have the comprehensive development plan for Indochina. We're following up on former Premier Miyazawa's announcement in Bangkok last January of a regional economic cooperation forum. The Hosokawa government has extended support for this plan. A meeting is scheduled for early December in Tokyo to crystallise ideas for comprehensive development of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

Donor countries such as the United States will participate to exchange views with government officials from Thailand and Indochinese states. In fact, Thailand has a geographic advantage. Its location allows the country to be the main link in the dynamism that stretches from China to the Asean countries. This generates more dynamism. The momentum is strong.

[THE NATION] Will the Thai-Japanese trade imbalance be narrowed?

[Fujii] We hope the imbalance will be gradually corrected. Our minister for international trade and industry presented a comprehensive paper at the last Asean meeting in Singapore in October proposing the upgrading of Asean industries including those in Thailand. We'll see more and more supporting industries here to produce parts and components for the assembly industry.

Although manufactured goods accounted for 54 per cent of Thailand's exports to Japan in 1992, the trade imbalance remains uncorrected because assembly industries had to import large quantities of parts from Japan. This is changing. Investment applications by Japanese firms rose to 103 in the first seven months of this year compared to 71 applications during the same period in 1992.

The number of applications is higher this year, but the value of each project is comparatively lower largely because they include a growing number of supporting industrial projects for parts. As you know, Japanese private investment in Thailand peaked from 1985 onwards. It slowed down in 1990 and 1991.

Keidanren (the Japanese federation of industries), meanwhile, will meet leaders of the Thai private sector this week in Phuket to further their cooperation. For the private sector, bottlenecks in transport and road infrastructure; shortage of human resources especially skilled labour and engineers; and environmental degradation remain the major hindrances for investment in Thailand.

[THE NATION] Japan has stopped giving grant aid to Thailand. Bilateral relations appear to have reached a more mature level. What's your impression?

[Fujii] Yes, we stopped grant aid under the Official Development Assistance programme this year because per-capita income in Thailand has topped the US\$1,200 limit. But we continue to extend concession loans which in fact have hit a new record.

The 18th yen loan from the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund topped 100 billion yen with 40 per cent of the amount going for environmental protection and related projects. We also supported infrastructure projects in Thailand.

We would rather describe our relations with Thailand as a partnership, a term used with few countries. This partnership has broadened and become more mutual. Thailand and Japan announced a joint initiative (for Cambodian problems). Although this didn't materialise, it reflected the closeness of the two countries.

Rice Shipment to Japan Due 'Around' 15 Nov OW0811122493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1157 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] Bangkok, Nov. 8 KYODO—The first shipment of rice from Thailand purchased by Japan to meet a short-fall in the domestic harvest is due to arrive around November 15, trading sources said Monday [8 November].

Japan has purchased a total of 133,000 tons of rice from Thailand on an emergency basis to help compensate for the worst domestic rice crop in its postwar history.

The first two of 18 vessels scheduled to transport the rice have already left Thailand for Japan with about 15,000 tons of rice for processing aboard, the sources said.

All the remaining shipments are expected to arrive before the end of the year.

The Japanese Government initially intended to import a total of 200,000 tons of rice from Thailand, the United States, China and Taiwan. Due to a delay, however, in inviting a tender for the purchase of 50,000 tons from Taiwan, the government now intends to import this amount additionally from Thailand.

Khmer Rouge May Be Named 'Outlawed Faction'
BK0911020193 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
9 Nov 93 p 3

[Text] The Royal Thai Army is prepared to treat the Khmer Rouge as an outlawed faction if the elected Cambodian government decides as such, Army boss Gen Wimon Wongwanit said iast night. However, Gen Wimon said it was difficult at this stage to treat the Khmer Rouge as outlaws because the faction still maintained an office in the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh.

"But if the (Cambodian) government definitely declares the Khmer Rouge an outlawed faction, we will accept and honour the decision," he said.

The Army chief was responding to questions while addressing a gathering of senior Thai and foreign journalists last night. They were taken on a Chao Phraya River cruise in an informal get-together to foster better relations between the Army and members of the media.

Gen Wimon said he personally believed the Khmer Rouge should have no right to serve in the Cambodian government (because the faction boycotted the recent elections) but Khmer Rouge representatives should be entitled to serve in some advisory role along the framework of Cambodia's national reconciliation.

He said the existence of a Khmer Rouge office in Phnom Penh showed the Cambodian government still did not treat the Khmer Rouge as an outlawed faction, adding it depended on King Norodom Sihanouk to devise some means to accommodate the Khmer Rouge.

In an oblique reference to Western condemnation of the genocidal faction, the Army chief said Cambodia's internal problems were best settled by Cambodians without external influence. Peace in Cambodia will be elusive if any of the factions is excluded, he said.

Senior army officers have said in the recent past that the Thai military has severed all relations with the Khmer Rouge. One officer told Bangkok Post last night an Army intelligence unit that for a long time had provided protection for Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot had now been disbanded.

Commenting on Thailand's relations with the military regime in Rangoon, which is another target of Western

criticism, Gen Wimon said: "We disagree with the way Burma is being ruled but our policy is not to interfere in Burma's internal affairs."

He said Thai policy was not to isolate Burma from the rest of the world, but rather to find ways and means to bring Burma back into the democratic world.

"Others may consider the Burmese rulers inhumane. But if you ask the Burmese leadership, they would say before others judge the Rangoon administration, they should study Burma's history. They would say how could they allow someone under British rule to ad minister the country," Gen Wimon said in apparent reference to Aung San Su Kyi's British husband.

Gen Wimon declined comments on the virtue of the Thai Government's decision to join the Non-Aligned Movement, but maintained the move had no adverse effect whatsoever on Thai-US joint military exercises or other aspects of Thai-US military relations.

In stark contrast to his sometimes critical comments of the local press in the past, Gen Wimon last night praised the media for playing an honourable, responsible and important role in Thai society. He called for closer cooperation between the media and the Armed Forces.

He said the Army over the past year had continued to implement his stated policy of down-sizing on the face of enhanced defence capability. He said training for soldiers on concept and ideology had developed alongside defence capability to ensure the Army could serve as the best guarantee for national security.

His leadership has focused on boosting the morale and welfare of soldiers.

"No matter how much technology has changed, victory in the end is dictated by the quality of our manpower," he said.

Gen Wimon said that in the the absence of serious security threats, the Army was concentrating on civic works development, support of Royally sponsored projects, and public-disaster relief operations such as those at the Kader factory fire and the hotel collapse in Nakhon Ratchasima.

On top of defence and civic works activities, the Army is also putting new priority on helping conserve the country's environment.

Minister Views Environment, Growth Triangle BK0711021893 Bangkok THE SUNDAY POST in English 7 Nov 93 p 4

[Text] Finance Minister Tharin Nimmanhemin yesterday said the Government has prepared grants of a five billion baht Environmental Fund for waste water treatment and garbage disposal in northern provinces. But Dr Chiraphon Sinthunawa, an environment academic, said he doubted whether there would be enough money for such environmental protection programmes in the North since the Fund has reportedly been almost used up.

According to Dr Chiraphon, the Fund has already pledged 1.4 billion baht for Phatthaya, 1.5 billion baht for Phuket and 800 million baht for Hat Yai.

The provinces which can be entitled to the funding must also designate themselves as "pollution control zones" but Chiang Mai and other major northern provinces have not yet made such an announcement, Dr Chiraphon said. However, he said the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund reportedly would contribute a sum of money for the Environmental Fund.

Mr Tharin spoke about the Government's preparations to help prevent environmental problems in 17 northern provinces at a seminar entitled "Urban Environmental Problems and Ways to Solve Them" held at Chiang Mai University under the sponsorship of Thailand's largest agri-business conglomerate, Charoen Phokphan Group. Mr Tharin said environmental protection measures are needed in the wake of the growing opportunities for economic development in the northern region. He said the North has high potential for development to accommodate the planned cooperation under the so-called Growth Quadrangle which encompasses China, Laos, Burma and Thailand.

The minister said six measures were being or would be undertaken to prevent the deterioration of the environment in the North. They involve the drafting of master plans for town planning and development, making proper use of land potential and designing environmental conservation zones, controlling and checking the quality of water and promoting joint ventures with the private sector in waste water treatment in communities and industrial plants.

The measures also call on the Industrial Works Department and the Pollution Control Department to closely monitor industrial factories' pollution control programmes.

Mr Tharin said the northern region has several positive factors that would put it in an advantageous position when the Growth Quadrangle begins its implementation. Its location provides access to raw material sources and markets in China, Burma and Laos. The region also has vast areas of low-priced land which can be exploited for commercial and industrial purposes. Its huge labour force is another advantage but the improvement of education for the workers is needed to increase their efficiency. He said the North can become a gateway to tourist destinations in Mandalay in Burma, Kunming in China, Luang Prabang in Laos and Phnom Penh in Cambodia.

Mr Tharin said the National Economic and Social Development Board has predicted that Chiang Mai and Lamphun can be turned into industrial production centres and centres for the development of farm production technology.

Chiang Rai, meanwhile, has a good potential as a centre for garment industry and gems and jewellery production. The manufacturing of agricultural machinery, agricultural processing and ceramic industries have a good chance to be developed in Lampang.

Phitsanulok can be a centre for small-scale industries, goods transport and food processing which Nakhon Sawan can provide both land and water transport services. Mr Tharin, however, said the actual implementation of the Growth Quadrangle might not happen soon owing to several obstacles, including differences in immigration and customs procedures and customs tax rates.

Feasibility studies for various projects to link the four countries with transport and communication and telecommunications systems are still under way.

The finance minister said, based on the increase in the number of private investors applying for promotional privileges for investment in the region, he believed the North has potential to develop economically without participating in the Growth Quadrangle. He listed water pollution, garbage traffic congestion and a lack of efficient mass transit systems as major problems of major northern provinces but confirmed the Government is working on master plans to solve these problems.

Mr Tharin said the project to divert water from the Kok River to the Yom River was being studied by the Agriculture Ministry.

Vietnam

Hanoi Reports Events at Donors' Conference

Phan Van Khai Addresses Forum

BK0911163693 Hanoi VNA in English 1614 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov 9—"The donors' conference on Vietnam is a very important event for Vietnam in 1993 and this also constitutes a manifestation of a strong support by the world community to Vietnam's renovation cause," First Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai told the Paris conference which runs from Nov. 9-10.

The Vietnamese leader continued:

"We are deeply aware that the convening of the current donor conference on Vietnam is a clear evidence indicating that the co-operative relations between Vietnam and various countries and organizations that were disrupted for more than a decade have now been restored and presently entering into a new stage and that confirms our successes in the foreign policy and the allround renovation implemented by Vietnam.

"In the recent years, in the face of new challenges and opportunities brought about by profound changes in the

world as well as in the Asian-Pacific region, our country has endeavoured to carry out economic reform, mobilizing the potentials of all walks of life in the country, shifting from the bureaucratic, subsidized and centralized management system to market mechanism with state regulation at the macro level, at the same time, broadening external economic relations, step by step implementing political reform while trying to preserve social stability.

"The great efforts and the appropriate steps in the process of our renovation have produced good results: So far, we can assert that Vietnam has managed to overcome the most difficult stage of an economic and social crisis, the national economy has got out of recession and it has registered an average growth rate of 7.25 percent annually during the period of 1991-1993 and the inflation rate with three digits has now been reduced to only one this year and people's life has been a step further improved.

"The open foreign policy following the direction that 'Vietnam wants to be friend all countries in the world community in order to strive for peace and development' has also yielded encouraging outcomes: governments of many countries in the world, particularly that of France, Japan, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Belgium, Germany, Australia, Italy, the traditional counterpart countries of ours, etc. And financial and monetary institutions like the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Kuwait Fund, economic organizations such as EC and OPEC, etc. have provided Vietnam with valuable assistance and all this has made positive contribution to the socio-economic development in Vietnam over the past years.

"On this occasion, on behalf of the Vietnamese Government and people, I wish to ask you to convey to the governments, peoples and organizations that you represent our profound gratitude to which has been done, is being done and will be done in order to support and assist the Vietnamese people in our national reconstruction".

"Now that the internal and external environment is quite favourable for our people and government to pool all our efforts to achieve a noble goal, namely to make the people wealthier, the country stronger and the society more civilized and just. We are aware that in attain that goal it is not at all an easy undertaking, since our country was subjected to many years of war, meanwhile the level of economic development is still low.

"In order to achieve the lofty goal that our people have ever dreamed, in the forthcoming years, it is our policy that:

"First, we have to bring into play the achievements already recorded in the process of renovation over the past years, rapidly develop the production forces of all economic sectors in order to strengthen the political, economic and social stability

"Second, we have to further perfect and enhance the effectiveness and the uniformity of the legal system and the state apparatus to create a secured legal environment in order to promote and attract more investments and other economic activities in an attempt to exploit the advantages of diversified natural resources, the favourable geographical location, particularly to utilize the abundant, hard—working and creative labour force that Vietnam possesses so that the national economy can be developed in a sound, sustained manner and with high growth rate.

"Third, while according high priority to mobilizing all resources to the development of economic infrastructure, we also pay attention to making investments to meet imperative needs for the educational and health development as well as other social and cultural issues with a view to achieving the objective of mobilizing all human resources available, regarding them as a driving force for a long-term socio-economic development.

"Fourth, the above-mentioned objectives and tasks can be achieved and performed only in a peaceful and stable environment with an ever growing cooperation among the countries in the region and the world at large. In this connection, Vietnam is determined to carry out a foreign policy of diversifying and multilaterizing relations with and befriending all countries and actively contributing to peace, stability and co-operation in south east asia and the world over.

"We therefore treasure the financial assistance by all countries and international organizations we look forward to receiving assistance in the formos of capital, technology and managerial skills from the highly industrialized countries, we highly value the support and assistance, depending on the capabilities of the developing countries, we sincerely hope to see a resumption and expansion of the co-operation with the traditional counterparts on the basis of new forms and measures.

"In addition to the official development assistance, we call upon countries and businessmen from all countries to promote development investments into Vietnam".

"I am convinced that the success of our conference will serve as a source of strong encouragement to the Vietnamese people and will add new resources to the process of renovation in Vietnam and it will create new basis for the many-sided co-operation between Vietnam and the international community," Mr Khai said in conclusion.

Phan Van Khai, French Minister Meet

BK1011092393 Hanoi VNA in English 0820 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 10—Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai on Monday met with Christian Noyet, president of the Paris Club, during his stay in the French capital for the first international donors' conference on Vietnam.

Mr. Christian informed Mr Khai about the preparation of the Paris Club conference on debt of Vietnam, and he affirmed the French Government's support to organize this conference. Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai thanked the French Government and the Paris Club President for their support to Vietnam to clear arrears with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), their initiative of, and support for the organization of the Paris donors' conference. He expressed his hope that the French Government and the club president would continue to help Vietnam settle its debt through the Paris Club.

The same day, Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai met with French Finance Minister Edmond Alphandery. Mr. Edmond informed the Vietnamese deputy prime minister of the contents of the 1993 French-Vietnamese financial protocol to be signed after the meeting.

He affirmed the French Government's support for the preparation for the Paris Club on debt of Vietnam as it had supported Vietnam in repaying its debt to the IMF. Mr. Edmond said that France's financial aid to Vietnam in the 1994 fiscal-year would be the same as in 1993.

Financial Protocol Signed

BK1011070793 Hanoi VNA in English 0649 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA November 10—A financial protocol for 1993 between Vietnam and France was signed in Paris on Nov. 8 between Vietnamese cabinet minister and Chairman of the State Planning Commission Do Quoc Sam, and French Minister of Economy and Finance E. Alphandery.

Under the protocol, the French Government, will grant Vietnam 250 million out of the 360 million French francs assistance it planned to provide Vietnam in 1993. The sum including a non-refundable aid of 100 million francs and a preferential loan of 150 million francs will be used for Vietnam's priority development projects on water supply and drainage energy, transport and communications and health care.

The signing was witnessed by Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai who was in the French capital for the donors' conference on Vietnam.

Commentary Hails Paris Conference of Donors

BK0911133593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] A conference of donors to Vietnam has opened in Paris, which marks a new step in relations between Vietnam and the international community. Here is our radio editor's opinion:

The donor conference was convened at the initiative of the United Nations Development Program and the World Bank with assistance of the French Government. It has drawn representatives from UN agencies, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, governments of many countries, and regional economic organizations. They include many countries and organizations which have for many years financed the socioeconomic development projects in Vietnam.

The Vietnamese delegation is led Vice Premier Phan Van Khai. The donors want to know Vietnam's socio-economic development situation and prospects to develop cooperative relations with Vietnam. It is also a forum for countries and organizations to assume their participation in Vietnam's socioeconomic development programs.

The Vietnamese Government is outlining its economic guideline policies to mobilize all domestic potentials as well as outside capital and technology in implementing development goals for 1994-1995 and until the year 2000. Vietnam is committed to the current renovation process and to improve its macro management capacity.

The donor conference highlights the concern of the world and international organizations with Vietnam's renovation process and economic development. The Vietnamese people appreciate the international assistance for their national construction and defense as well as their current renovation process.

Further on Visit to Hanoi by Lao Delegation

Do Muoi Receives Delegation

BK0911165293 Hanoi VNA in English 1630 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 9-Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee received here this afternoon Saman Vi-gnaket, Politburo member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and president of the Supreme People's Assembly and his party on an orficial friendship visit to Vietnam. Speaking to his guests, General Secretary Do Muoi expressed his belief that the visit will contribute to the enhancement and consolidation of the fraternal friendship, special solidarity and all-sided cooperation between the two countries. He affirmed that the Vietnamese party, state and people are determined to carry out the late President Ho Chi Minh's testament to constantly defend and strengthen the traditional, faithful and special relations between Vietnam and Laos and strive to make the all-sided cooperation between the two countries more effective in conformity with the aspiration and interests of the two nations. On this occasion, the Vietnamese leader asked the Lao delegation to convey his best regards to the party and state leaders of Laos and expressed his hope that the Lao people would continue to gain greater achievements in their national construction and defence. For his part, President Saman Vi-gnaket informed General Secretary Do Muoi of the fine results of the talks between the two N.A. [national

assembly] delegations on Nov. 8 during which the two sides unanimously agreed on orientations and measures to promote the cooperation between the two national assemblies, implement agreements of the senior officials of the two countries in conformity with the new situation in each countries, in the region and the world as a whole. He also expressed the determination of the Lao national assembly and people to continue to foster the Vietnam-Laos special friendship and solidarity, thus meeting the fundamental interests of peace, cooperation and development in the region and the world as a whole.

Le Duc Anh Receives Delegation

BK0911170093 Hanoi VNA in English 1630 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 9-President Le Duc Anh received here yesterday the visiting delegation of the Lao Supreme People's Assembly led by its President Samane Vi-gnaket. President Le Duc Anh welcomed the visit as a important event marking a new step in the development of the friendship, cooperation and solidarity between the legislatures of the two countries, thus contributing to strengthening the special friendship clear and time-honoured ties between the two parties and peoples. For his part, President Saman Vi-gnaket expressed his belief that the cooperative relations between the two national assemblies will be strengthened and broadened in conformity with the fine development of the fraternal friendship, special solidarity and allsided cooperation between the parties, states and people of Vietnam and Laos. This morning, President Saman Vi-gnaket and his party paid a floral tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum and visited his residence and office. The delegation also called at the Hanoi Electronic Company (Hanel), Lao Embassy and Tran Quoc Pagoda in Hanoi.

Friendship Delegation Visits South Korea BK0911153393 Hanoi VNA in English 1525 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 9—A delegation of the Vietnam Union of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organizations (UPSFO) led by its President Nguyen Quang Tao visited the Republic of Korea from Nov. 3-5 as guest of the Korea-Vietnam Association for Cooperation and Friendship. While there, the delegation attended an annual congress of the Korea-Vietnam Association, had working sessions with the association's leading officials and informed them of the renovation process in Vietnam and organizational structure and activities of the UPSFO. The two sides discussed measures to strengthen relations between the two organizations in order to effectively contribute to the friendship and cooperation between the people of Vietnam and South Korea.

Do Muoi Attends Trade Union Congress

BK1011090593 Hanoi VNA in English 0820 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 10—The VIIth [Roman Seven] national congress of the Vietnamese trade unions was opened here today.

Prominent among those present at the opening session were Party General Secretary Do Muoi, Deputy President Nguyen Thi Binh and officials of the party, government and representatives of mass organizations.

The congress is attended by 610 delegates from trade unions organizations from different sectors and localities. Five of the delegates are from non-state sectors. The opening session heard a report on the renovation of trade unions' organization and activities in order to contribute to building and defending the homeland and to caring for and protecting workers' interests presented by GCL [expansion unknown] President Nguyen Van Tu and an address by General Secretary Do Muoi of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

Vo Van Kiet Presides Over Airlines Meeting

BK0811124293 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 5 Nov 93

[From the 5 November Press Review]

[Text] Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and Deputy Prime Minister Tran Duc Luong recently presided over a meeting to discuss the consolidation and reorganization of activities of the share-holding Pacific Airlines Company.

At the meeting, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet concluded that since its founding, despite its efforts to perform its tasks, the share-holding Pacific Airlines Company has committed irregularities in its business service. The Pacific Airlines Company should continue reviewing its activities to find out those responsible for the existing problems and for violations of policies and law.

The prime minister instructed that under the guidance of the Ministry of Transport and Communications and of relevant organs, the Vietnam Civil Aviation Department will be responsible for directing the Pacific Airlines Company to consolidate its organization and rectify its activities in accordance with a legal document governing the operation of the company. This document will be presented to the prime minister for reconsideration or for revision in order to ensure an adequate legal foundation on which the Pacific Airlines Company can carry out normal operations in the new situation.

President Orders Release of 67 Prisoners

BK0911113593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] On 8 November, the Office of the President issued a statement as follows:

In implementing Decision No. 105 issued by the president on 31 August 1993 on amnesty for prisoners in 1993, The Amnesty Central Council held two meetings in late September and early October to consider the list of prisoners eligible for amnesty. To implement the state policy on pardons, after examining the Amnesty Central Council report, the state president signed Order No. 127 on 8 November to pardon 67 prisoners.

Nguyen Duc Binh at Political Courses Opening

BK1011111793 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] The Ho Chi Minh National Politics Institute held the opening ceremony on 8 November in Hanoi for Politics Degree Course No. 2 and Political Theory— Further Training No. 4. The attendants of these courses are core cadres selected from a number of agencies, departments, and sectors at both central and local levels.

Comrade Nguyen Duc Binh, member of the Party Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the Party Central Committee, addressed the function. He said the opening of these courses at this particular occasion is significant in accelerating the country's development in the areas of politics, economy, security, and national defense.

Course attendants will undergo special training programs on comprehensive Marxism-Leninism Theory and Ho Chi Minh Thought. They will also learn in depth the history of the Vietnam Communist Party and international communist and worker movements, as well as the party's basic standpoints on its renovation policy. Also included in the program are Marxism methodology, a training program to enhance political reasoning and practical organizational skills, and theory and experiments in leadership and management. Once they graduate, trainees will join the cadre contingent who are able to fulfill both immediate tasks and long-term goals of our socialist revolution.

Apart from the political-social science professors and researchers as the main teaching staff, the attendants will also be lectured by high-ranking party and leading state comrades on essential issues.

Article on Party View of Religious Affairs

BK0711083893 Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese Oct 93 pp 16-18

[Article by Le Minh: "Firmly Grasp the Party's Concepts About Religious Affairs in the Current Situation"]

[Text] In recent years, along with renovating socioeconomic policies, our party and state have also carried out religious reform. Article 70 of the 1992 Constitution clearly notes that our policy is to respect the freedom of religions and the freedom of atheism.

In reality, many religions in various localities have had their normal activities guaranteed. Catholic churches, Buddhist pagodas, Caodaist holy sees, and temples in many areas have been restored or rebuilt. Favorable conditions have been created for printing and publishing holy Bibles of various kinds. Five Catholic seminaries, 20 elementary Buddhist dharma schools, and two Buddhist dharma colleges in the country are turning out more priests and monks. The state has agreed to allow various religions to send their clergymen overseas for further training. Various religions have also sent delegations abroad to attend international anniversary celebrations and international conferences. Meanwhile, they have also invited many foreign religious delegations to our country to attend international conferences or seminars, and/or participate in charitable and social activities. There have been many religious festivals and major religious rites organized by various religions with thousands and tens of thousands of followers in attendance. The Eighth Congress of the Vietnam Buddhist Church and the Fifth Congress of the Vietnam Episcopal Council acknowledged and welcomed the renovation of our party and state's religious policy.

All these have contributed to doing away with those erroneous feelings and prejudices found in the past and strengthening the unity between religions and among the entire people in the cause of national construction and defense.

At present, one third of our country's population are followers of various religions, with Catholicism having some 6 million followers; Buddhism, 10 million; Protestantism, 30,000; Cao Dai Religious Sect, 2.5 million; Hoa Hao Religious Sect, 1.5 million; Islamism, 50,000; and many other religious cults. The number of people with religious affiliation in our country, including the sympathizers of this religion or that religion, now accounts for 60 to 70 percent of the country's population. During the revolution and the resistance war, a majority of religious followers and clergymen was noted for their patriotism and their attachment to the nation. Together with the entire people, they contributed greatly to the past struggle to liberate the south and unify the country and to the present cause of socialist construction and national defense.

Since 1945, our country has experienced over 30 years of continuous war, including nine years of resistance war against French colonialism, and over 20 years of war against U.S. imperialist aggression. During these 30 years, the aggressors sought to use religion as a means to oppose our people's revolutionary cause. In many localities, they converted Catholic churches, Caodaist holy sees, Bhuddist pagodas, and temples into military outposts to maintain their grip on our people and to detain and torture our resistance fighters. They conscripted young religious followers into the Army to serve as cannon fodder. Perfidious still, they used religion as a means to split up our national unity bloc. They made up stories about atheism destroying theism in order to create differences between the party and the people's administration on one side and religious followers and priests of various religions on the other.

Yet, they could only deceive and win the support of a small, unremarkable number of priests and religious followers. The majority of clergymen and laymen of various religions joined with the entire people in fighting the enemy in defiance of hardships and sacrifice, thus making not inconsiderable contributions to the cause of national liberation and unification. The two wars of resistance—one against French colonialism and the other against U.S. imperialism—were successful thanks to the efforts and the sacrifice of blood and bones of both atheists and theists in our country. The imperialist attempt to split up our multiethnic great unity bloc and to drive a wedge between our nation and religions faced a disastrous defeat. Religious followers and clergymen now can feel proud of their contributions to the great and glorious victory of our nation.

However, the imperialists, with their conspiracies to exploit religion, have left religion with a bad name and certain obsessions by the believers in the people's government, especially in places where the invading Armies committed killings and terrorism to deepen contradictions among different religions and between religions with the revolutionary government.

In order to eliminate those bad names and obsessions, we have made profound analysis while undertaking to reform our religious policy. Our party and state confirm this: Nowadays, in a peaceful situation, while undertaking to unite the people for the construction and protection of our fatherland, religions are a spiritual demand of the believers.

Religion is a spiritual demand because human beings—when facing misfortune in their lives such as accidents, poverty, sickness, and death of relatives—will resort to religions with offerings to sacred gods, hoping their suffering will subside and the salvation of the sacred gods will change their lives. They use religion as a recourse for more willpower to overcome hardship and difficulty.

Human beings, facing other social evils such as gambling, robbery, murder, debauchery, and corruption, come to religion and religious morals with the hope of creating a magnanimous life with better moral standards. For the followers, this has become a belief and sentiment that should be respected.

Our party and state have also clearly stated: "Religious morality includes many teachings suitable to our efforts to build a new society." It is correct that all religions train their followers with the following principles: conducting a pure life, performing good deeds, not committing bad actions, not killing others, not cheating, not fornicating, and loving and helping the poor and others suffering from misfortune. This is also the necessary moral quality of the laborers in undertaking to build a new society.

Some people argue that religions only advise people to heighten their morality, improve social conditions, not advocate violence, and not organize the masses to struggle against oppressive regimes and foreign invasion. Religions also urge people to believe in the fate decided by gods and saints and to not trust their strength for fighting against social oppression and injustice. They also say: Because of that, religions have existed for thousands of years but have not changed bad societies so that the people can move forward to be the masters of their own lives and societies.

Religious morality, despite its limitations, is useful for the religious laborers to limit negativism and bad aspects in society. Our party and state's religious policy is to respect the freedom of religion and the freedom of nonreligion of the people. Believing or not believing in any faith is the freedom of each citizen. And the government of the people, for the people, and by the people respects that freedom. Our government guarantees equality among religions. It does not recognize any statement by any religion saying it is good while the others are bad. Our government expects all religions to unite and it objects to any actions to divide religions and cause conflicts among them, thus damaging the national unity.

Our state respects freedom of religion and has been struggling to oppose all acts of violating freedom of religion and all attempts to use religion for the purposes of undermining national unity and the cause of national construction and defense. The essence of our religious affairs also involves caring for the material and spiritual life of the clergymen and laymen of various religions, trying to ensure that the laymen of various religions have a plentiful, free, and happy life on this planet and, therefore, can enjoy favorable conditions in their religious affairs.

While on a visit to the Tran Quoc pagoda during the Year of the Rooster (1993) Tet, Comrade Do Muoi, our party general secretary, gave this profound comment: The ideal of Lord Jesus Christ is mercy while that of Lord Buddha is great compassion. The ideals of Islamic Lord Allah and of other religions also aim to ensure a plentiful, free, and happy life for the people to oppose oppression, exploitation, and social injustice. Thus, the ideals of various religions are similar to those of socialism because they are also opposed to oppression, exploitation, and social injustice and are aimed at bringing about a plentiful, free, and happy life for the people. The ideals of socialism and those of various religions do not conflict. The clergymen and laymen of various religions can feel safe in carrying out their worship while helping to build socialism in a widespread movement now being initiated among millions of religious followers in our country to better their religious and mundane life.

We are building a law-abiding state. Every citizen and every organization are equal before the law. Therefore, along with motivating millions of clergymen and laymen to build a new society, our state exercises its lawful control over various religions and other organizations in society. Lawful control does not mean using law to

constrain religious activities, but rather using the law to ensure regular activities for various religions in accordance with the policy on freedom of religion and using the law to contain and do away with all acts of violating our policy on religion as well as all acts of using religion as a means to undermine national interests.

Our party and state have on several occasions stated that they respect freedom of religion and freedom of atheism. They guarantee that freedom of religion is carried out in real life and that religions can carry out their normal activities in accordance with the law. The state will not prohibit any religion from carrying out its legal activities and will instead take action against those using religion as a means to undermine national unity and the cause of achieving unity among religions and to sabotage the cause of national construction and defense.

The Fatherland Front and mass organizations are responsible for caring for the livelihood and the material and spiritual life of the clergymen and laymen of various religions. They should help various religions satisfactorily initiate a movement among their followers to better their religious and mundane life and to respect their holy lords and love the country. They should also investigate and inform the administration of those cases of violations of the policy on religion. Regarding religious followers and members of various associations and mass organizations and those clergymen who are members of the Fatherland Front committees at various levels, the Fatherland Front and relevant mass organizations should create favorable conditions for them to alleviate their difficulties and to facilitate their religious activities. Those clergymen and laymen with meritorious deeds toward the country should be appropriately commended and rewarded. The Fatherland Front and relevant mass organizations should closely monitor, keep in touch with, and listen to the views and aspirations of clergymen and laymen of various religions in order to give the party and the administration feedback and to respond to the earnest aspirations of various religions.

Our party and state are making efforts to train a contingent of cadres with a solid knowledge of religions and of party and state policies on religions to ensure a more correct implementation of those policies. Steps have also been taken to perfect or supplement laws and sub-laws as well as to consolidate committees on religious affairs at all levels to represent the state at meetings or working sessions with representatives of the various religions, listening to their suggestions and aspirations and giving feedback to the party, state, the Fatherland Front, and mass organizations. As a result, millions of clergymen and laymen of various religions have a sense of security while performing their routine religious activities and actively participate in the task of building and defending the Vietnamese Fatherland.

At present, the entire Vietnamese people and faithful of various religions in Vietnam share a common earnest aspiration and iron-like determination, namely to promote unity among different religions, achieve all-people solidarity, a better religious and mundane life, to revere God, love the country, and help build a bountiful, free, and happy life for everyone.

Lighthouse Built on Island in Spratlys

BK0811071893 Hanoi VNA in English 0626 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 8—A lighthouse has been built on Song Tu Tay Island in the Truong Sa (Spratly) Archipelago to ensure safe navigation in the area.

The lighthouse is 36 m [meters] high and 4.5 m wide. It was designed and built by the Maritime Construction Company No. 1. During construction, the company was helped by the island's garrison in the transportation of more than 3,000 tons of steel, cement, brick, gravel and other materials.

Song Tu Tay is one of the northern most islands in Truong Sa Archipelago under the administration of Khanh Hoa Province.

Tax Collection Activities Information Released

BK0911105393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 9 Nov 93

[Text] As of the end of October, an estimated 18,155 billion dong had been collected by the national revenue sector, thus representing 91 percent of the annual target set by the National Assembly and nearly 90 percent of the annual target set by the government.

All the targets for major tax collections have been satisfactorily attained with the amount collected from state enterprises representing over 93 percent of the target set by the National Assembly and over 86 percent of the target set by the government. The amount of tax collected from the foreign investment sector represents over 91 percent of the target set by the National Assembly and 89 percent of the target set by the government. The amount of industrial and trade tax collected from the nongovernmental sector represents over 100 percent of the targets set by the National Assembly and the government. The amount of agricultural tax collected represents over 73 percent of the targets set by the National Assembly and the government.

Ordinance on Gold Trading, Imports, Exports

BK0811055993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] In order to put the gold trading business on the right track, the government recently issued an ordinance on state control of the gold trading business. According to this ordinance, the state acknowledges the right of all organizations and individuals to legal ownership of their gold items in the forms of gold in bulk, gold bars, gold ingots, alluvial gold, gold sheet, gold ores, pure gold, and ornamental gold.

Private firms and enterprises with foreign investment can store and deposit their gold at banks. The State Bank is a state organ that excercises control over such operations as making, processing, mortgaging, trading in, and importing and exporting gold items. Organizations and individuals wishing to engage in gold trading should form their firms or have their business registered with and licensed by the State Bank. Firms engaged in gold trading can buy, sell, process, make, and mortgage gold items.

Gold imports shall be carried out by the State Bank. Any gold trading firms wishing to export their gold shall obtain a permit from the State Bank.

While entering or exiting Vietnam, Vietnamese citizens and foreigners carrying gold ornaments along with them shall correctly comply with Vietnam's regulations on foreign exchange control. Firms and individuals engaged in the gold business shall be subject to the control of the State Bank. They must comply with the law and pay tax as stipulated.

Gas Turbogenerators Expand Ba Ria Power Plant BK0711144793 Hanoi VNA in English 1424 GMT 7 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 7—Three gas turbo-generators each with a capacity of 37.5 mw are being installed at the Ba Ria thermo-power plant in Ba Ria-Vung Tau Province, south Vietnam, helping raise the plant's capacity to 290 mw.

These turbo-generators will be fuelled by associated gas obtained from oil fields on Vietnam's southern continental shelf off Ba Ria-Vung Tau. Ba Ria will become the first power plant in Vietnam to use associated gas to run generators.

About 2.5 million more kwh will be supplied daily to southern provinces by early 1994 when the three gas turbo-generators start operation, thus easing chronic power shortage in southern provinces in the coming dry season (from October 1993 to March 1994).

The investment capital for the upgrading of this power plant is reported at 37.2 million USD [U.S. dollars] and 45 billion VN dong.

Lao Cai Builds New Office for Radio, TV

BK0911104793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] The Lao Cai Province Radio and Television Station just inaugurated the first construction stage of its office in Lao Cai.

The Lao Cai radio program broadcasts daily in Vietnamese and some main local ethnic languages. The daily television programming mainly contains transmission relays from the Hanoi Television Station together with local news to meet the information demands of the local ethnic people.

Daily THOI BAO TAI CHINH Makes Debut

BK0811132093 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] The Ministry of Finance held a ceremony on 4 November to introduce the paper THOI BAO TAI CHINH [Financial Times] to the readership.

Attending the ceremony were Comrade Ha Dang, director of the party Central Committee Ideology and Culture Department; editors-in-chief of various papers and magazines; and many journalists.

Given the current situation, the emergence of THOI BAO TAI CHINH is of great significance because it can help with the renovation cause. The market mechanism calls for lively financial and monetary activities. Though it has come into existence late, THOI BAO TAI CHINH will help direct financial and monetary activities and contribute to accelerating the cause of national renovation and advancement.

PRC Reportage on President Le Duc Anh Visit WA1011180793

For PRC Reportage on the visit to China by President Le Duc Anh, including reports on his talks with President Jiang Zemin and Premier Li Peng, please see the Southeast Asia & Pacific section of the 9 November China DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

